Disease ecologist/Spatial Modeler: Wisconsin

Agency
US Geological Survey- Wisconsin Coop Wildlife Research Unit

Location
Madison, Wisconsin

Job Category
Post Doctoral Appointment

Salary
Salary will be ~$50k a year.

Last Date to Apply
06/30/2016

Description
POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH POSITION modeling emerging/re-emerginig wildlife diseases. Twelve months of funding is available through the University of Wisconsin's Department of Forestry and Wildlife Ecology and the USGS National Wildlife Health Center located in Madison, WI. The primary objective of this project is to develop predictive models of disease spread for emerging/re-emerging diseases of wildlife. Initially the project will focus on white-nose syndrome at the leading edge of the disease, and then as funding and time allows expand to other diseases. The specific objectives pertaining to WNS are to: 1) model the pattern and rate of spatial spread of P. destructans, the causative agent of WNS, within and between seasons; and 2) assess the relationship of several presumed “high risk” factors including human activity (categorical scale), species diversity (number of species), colony size (categorical scale-determined from the data), and distance to nearest infected hibernacula thought to increase the likelihood of P. destructans contamination at a given location. Preferred start date is Spring 2016 (however all interested candidates should apply, as start data is negotiable).

Qualifications
Qualified applicants should have a recent (last 1-2 years) Ph.D. with an emphasis in wildlife ecology/quantitative ecology or a similar discipline that provides the applicant with the necessary background in spatial modeling and wildlife ecology. Applicants must have 1) a record of research and publications, 2) strong knowledge and application of population modeling, 3) proficiency in R, 4) ability to work independently and solve project objectives with limited assistance, 5) good written and oral communication skills, 6) ability to work with other scientists, and 7) interest in disease ecology. Interested individuals should send a cover letter outlining experience, research interests, and relevant coursework, a curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references to Dr. Mike Samuel, US
Geological Survey Wisconsin Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit at mdsamuel@wisc.edu, please cc: rerussell@usgs.gov. Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

Contact Person
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Contact eMail
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