

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant Unit Leader – Research Ecologist

U.S. Geological Survey, Georgia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Athens

Organization: U.S. Geological Survey, with non-tenured faculty appointment in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia

POSITION OVERVIEW: The Georgia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (<https://www1.usgs.gov/coopunits/unit/Georgia>) exists by cooperative agreement among the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GADNR), University of Georgia (UGA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the Wildlife Management Institute. Unit scientists address research needs of the cooperating natural resource agencies and contribute to graduate academic programs at UGA.

We seek a research scientist to conduct applied research pertaining to ecological forecasting of stressors and management actions on aquatic and terrestrial habitats and species, particularly in systems of Georgia and the southeastern U.S. In addition to the basic qualifications, desirable candidates will possess the following: (1) ability to develop and fund an applied research program focused on the predicted impacts of ecological stressors (e.g., climate change, land use, sea level rise, disease) and management alternatives especially affecting imperiled, game, or invasive species and their habitats; (2) expertise in relevant quantitative methods for predicting effects of stressors and management actions at various geographic and biological scales in stochastic environments; (3) experience in design, execution, and interpretation of field and experimental-based research; and (4) ability to work with lands managers, decision makers, and stakeholders to develop and apply research in relevant decision contexts.

The Assistant Unit Leader will be employed by USGS and be required to maintain a UGA faculty appointment without tenure at a rank commensurate with experience. The faculty appointment will be made in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, with activity areas in teaching, research, service, and administration. Unit faculty generally teach one graduate level course per year.

The incumbent is expected to work closely with the Unit's cooperators. The management programs of the GADNR Wildlife Resources Division (Fisheries Management, Game Management, and Wildlife Conservation sections; www.georgiawildlife.com) provide opportunities for leveraging resources to study fish and wildlife ecology in the state and region. Additional prospects for collaborative research are available through the major programs of the FWS (www.fws.gov), including migratory birds, fish and aquatic conservation, refuges, endangered species, and science applications. The incumbent will be employed within the Cooperative Research Units program of the USGS (www.usgs.gov), a network of over 100 colleagues in 41 Units in 39 states.

Requirements: Candidates must possess a PhD in fish or wildlife biology, population ecology, biometrics or quantitative ecology, natural resources, or related fields, verified with a transcript submitted with the application. A cover letter submitted with application will help demonstrate whether the candidate meets the desired areas of expertise. The entry salary grade for this position is GS-12, but candidates with sufficient experience at the GS-12 level may qualify to apply at the GS-13 level. Candidates must be citizens of the United States.

STATE AND UNIVERSITY: Georgia is well-known for its quality of life, both in terms of outdoor and urban activities (www.georgia.gov) The University of Georgia (www.uga.edu) is a land/sea/space grant institution comprised of 17 schools and colleges. Athens is a diverse community of approximately 150,000 people located less than 75 miles from Atlanta. UGA enrolls about 39,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students.

ABOUT WARNELL: The Warnell School (www.warnell.uga.edu) is an internationally-acclaimed professional school with a proud history of producing leaders in natural resource management. The Wildlife Sciences program has strengths in applied ecology, game and nongame management, quantitative and decision sciences, and spatial analysis. The Fisheries Sciences program has strengths in aquatic ecosystem health, fisheries management, fish ecology, and population dynamics. Faculty members collaborate extensively with affiliated programs including the Savannah River Ecology Lab, Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, the Jones Ecological Research Center at Ichauway, as well as with a host of state and federal agencies and NGOs. Collaborative opportunities are encouraged with other disciplines within the School, which include Community Forestry and Arboriculture, Forestry, Geospatial Information Science, Policy and Sustainability, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management, and Water and Soil Science. Warnell faculty and graduate students also participate in UGA's pioneering Integrative Conservation PhD Program (<http://icon.uga.edu/>), which trains students in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research to address complex social-ecological problems.

TO APPLY: Applicants must apply through USA Jobs and meet requirements for federal service. **The application period closes November 28, 2021.**

Announcement 1 – Open to current federal employees, or those eligible for reinstatement into federal service: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/619467100>

Announcement 2 – Open to the public: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/619466800>

Inquiries about the position may be addressed to Dr. Clint Moore (ctmoore@uga.edu), Unit Leader, Georgia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit.

Equal Employment Opportunity Policy

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.