

Assistant Unit Leader Positions: Wildlife Biologist and Ecologist

Massachusetts Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit
Department of Environmental Conservation
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

Two U.S Geological Survey research scientist positions are available with the Massachusetts Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (<https://www.coopunits.org/Massachusetts/>) at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The successful candidates will also become adjunct faculty (rank commensurate with experience) in the Department of Environmental Conservation (<https://eco.umass.edu/>) at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

The Cooperative Research Unit Program:

The U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Research Unit program aims to enhance graduate education in fisheries and wildlife sciences and to facilitate research between natural resource agencies and universities on topics of mutual concern. The Massachusetts Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit is a partnership between the U.S. Geological Survey, the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Wildlife Management Institute.

1) Assistant Unit Leader of Wildlife (Wildlife Biologist/Research Ecologist)

12-month Federal Research Scientist at GS-12 or GS-13 level (\$85,680 to \$132,453)

Application for the Public: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/563429400>

Application for Current or Former Federal Employees:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/563429600>

Description: The successful applicant will develop an extramurally-funded research program addressing ecological and management-relevant questions related to ecology and dynamics of wildlife (game and nongame) populations. Requirements include a PhD in Wildlife Science, Ecology, or closely related field, peer-reviewed publications related to wildlife ecology, and demonstrated experience investigating animal movements and population dynamics using innovative and emerging quantitative tools. Successful applicants will also have the ability to teach graduate-level university courses and mentor graduate students, one or more years of post-PhD research experience in natural resources, and experience working closely with professional natural resource organizations, state and federal agencies, and university faculty. The Assistant Unit Leader will be expected to teach one graduate course per year at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst in their area of specialty. The incumbent is expected to collaborate with other University faculty and with our state and federal agency partners to answer pressing research questions that contribute to managing wildlife populations and their habitats.

Additional Desirable Qualifications:

- 1) Ability to build an applied research program focused on the ecology, management, and conservation of wildlife (game and non-game) species;
- 2) Experience conducting research on adaptation of wildlife to a changing climate, and impacts of natural and human disturbances on their habitats;
- 3) Expertise in field-based research, and application of modern quantitative analyses and tools such as spatial analysis, capture recapture approaches, or population, community, and habitat dynamics modeling (e.g., knowledge and application of Bayesian inference); and
- 4) Experience designing, planning and conducting field research programs, and analyzing/synthesizing results from field research.

2) Assistant Unit Leader of Ecology (Research Ecologist)

12-month Federal Research Scientist at GS-12 level (\$85,680 to \$111,389)

Application for the Public: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/563571800>

Application for Current or Former Federal Employees:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/563571500>

Description: The successful applicant will develop an extramurally-funded research program in collaboration with state and federal agency partners and University faculty to answer pressing ecological and management-relevant research questions related to ecology and dynamics of organisms and their habitats. Requirements include a PhD in Ecology or closely related field and peer-reviewed publications related to applied ecology or conservation biology. One or more years of post-PhD research experience in natural resources is preferred. Specific areas of expertise are open, but possible areas include, wildlife and land management, endangered and at-risk species, landscape ecology, climate resilience, human dimensions, population ecology, and other fields. Successful applicants will also have strong quantitative skills, the ability to teach graduate-level university courses and mentor graduate students, and experience working closely with professional natural resource organizations, state and federal agencies, and university faculty. The Assistant Unit Leader will be expected to teach one graduate course per year at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst in their area of specialty.

Additional Desirable Qualifications:

- 1) Ability to build an applied research program focused on the ecology, management, and conservation of terrestrial or aquatic species;
- 2) Experience conducting research on response of terrestrial or aquatic species to a changing climate, and impacts of natural and human disturbances on their habitats;
- 3) Expertise in field-based research, and application of modern quantitative analyses and tools such as spatial analysis, capture recapture approaches, or population, community, and habitat dynamics modeling (e.g., knowledge and application of Bayesian inference);
- 4) Experience designing, planning and conducting field research programs, and analyzing/synthesizing results from field research; and
- 5) Skill in utilizing decision theory to assist in making natural resource management decisions.

The Location:

The positions are located on the University of Massachusetts campus in Amherst, Massachusetts. Amherst is the Pioneer Valley of central Massachusetts, near the Connecticut River and the Quabbin Watershed, and within 2.5 hours of major cities (Boston, New York City). The town of Amherst is a vibrant university community with year-round social, cultural, and outdoor activities.

Application Deadline: 23 April 2020

For additional information, please contact: Dr. Allison Roy, Unit Leader, Massachusetts Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit; aroy@eco.umass.edu.