

## **M.S. or Ph.D. Assistantship in Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conservation (Available for Fall 2020)**

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management (PRTM) at North Carolina State University invites applications for an MS or PhD-level research assistantship beginning in Fall 2020. The successful applicant will work under the supervision of [Dr. Lincoln Larson](#) on a study evaluating college students' beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors related to wildlife conservation and wildlife-related recreation activities (e.g., hunting, fishing, wildlife watching). Particular emphasis will be placed on the outdoor recreation recruitment, retention, and reactivation (R3) of college students from non-traditional backgrounds. The research project is supported by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NC WRC), and it builds on the work of an ongoing U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Multistate Project that includes [a team](#) of researchers and practitioners from universities and wildlife agencies across 23 states. Results of the project will inform research and practice that impacts the future of R3 and wildlife conservation efforts across the United States.

### **Key Responsibilities & Opportunities:**

- **Research:** Work with faculty advisor and agency partners to advance human dimensions of wildlife conservation theory and practice; Assist with study design, data collection, analysis, and implementation of R3 programs targeting college students.
- **Writing & Communication:** Assist or lead in developing academic presentations, peer-reviewed journal articles, non-technical reports, outreach materials, and other deliverables related to R3 and wildlife recreation/conservation.
- **Teaching & Mentoring:** Train and supervise undergraduate research assistants and serve as a teaching assistant in PRTM courses. Interact with leaders of student organizations to support campus-wide R3 efforts.
- **Professional Development & Networking:** Interact with partners from a wide range of academic and professional backgrounds, fostering professional connections and potential employment opportunities across multiple sectors.

### **Required Qualifications:**

- BA or BS degree (MS for PhD applicants) in natural resource-related discipline and/or social science degree with an emphasis on natural resource management
- Desire to pursue degree in Fish, Wildlife & Conservation Biology (FWCB) or Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management (PRTM) within the [College of Natural Resources](#).
- Background or experience in quantitative (survey-based) and qualitative (interview-based) data collection and analysis
- Strong verbal and writing communication skills
- Strong leadership, organizational, and project management skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with others across multiple sectors
- Meet admissions requirements of the NC State Graduate School ([found here](#))

**Desired Qualifications:**

- Strong interest in wildlife conservation values, attitudes and behaviors
- Interest in hunting/fishing (or connections between these activities and conservation)
- Passion for engaging “non-traditional” stakeholders in wildlife recreation/conservation
- Experience working for or with state or federal wildlife management agencies

**Assistantship Package:** The assistantship provides an annual stipend of \$20,000 that also includes tuition, student fees, health insurance, and funds to support professional development. It assumes 20 hours per week dedicated to research and teaching and 20 hours dedicated to coursework. Position is renewable for up to 3 years based on satisfactory progress.

**Starting Date:** The targeted (negotiable) starting date for the assistantship is August 17, 2020.

**How to Apply:** Please begin the application process by sending an email to Dr. Lincoln Larson ([LRLarson@ncsu.edu](mailto:LRLarson@ncsu.edu)) with the following items in one PDF document:

- 1) Letter of Intent (personal statement describing relevant experience and research interests)
- 2) Resume or CV
- 3) Contact Information for 3 Academic References

**Position will remain open until filled, with all applications submitted by February 24, 2020 receiving full consideration.** If selected for the position, applicants will be asked to [submit an online application](#) to the NC State Graduate School.

**About the Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism Management (PRTM):**

[PRTM](#) is a multidisciplinary department that addresses critical research questions related to the human dimensions of natural and built environments, human health and wellbeing, and equitable and sustainable tourism. PRTM’s mission: to advance and disseminate scholarship concerning management and use of natural and cultural resources for recreation, tourism, and sport through research, teaching and public engagement. Questions about the [PRTM Graduate Program](#) can be sent to Dr. Yu-Fai Leung, Director of Graduate Programs ([leung@ncsu.edu](mailto:leung@ncsu.edu)).

**About the College of Natural Resources (CNR):**

[CNR](#) is a world leader in the sustainable use of natural resources. CNR is committed to interdisciplinary research, teaching and engagement, as nurturing and enjoying the environment and engineering sustainable products go hand-in-hand with helping communities and enterprises thrive. The faculty, staff, students and alumni of CNR are discovering and sharing real world solutions to real world problems every day.

**About the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC):**

[NCWRC](#) is the state’s fish and wildlife agency charged with developing and administering programs directed to the conservation of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats while providing opportunities that allow hunters, anglers, boaters and other outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy wildlife-associated recreation.

**About the Campus & Community:**

Campus life at [NC State](#) is lively and varied. It offers [numerous opportunities for graduate students](#) hoping to build a rewarding and well-balanced life. The university is located in Raleigh, NC: consistently rated as one of the nation’s [best places to live](#), work and play!

If you have any questions about this assistantship opportunity, please contact:

[Dr. Lincoln Larson](#), [LRLarson@ncsu.edu](mailto:LRLarson@ncsu.edu) or 919-515-8947

*NC State is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. NC State University welcomes all persons without regard to sexual orientation or genetic information.*