



**Graduate Research Assistantship, Ph.D.
Park Management and Conservation
Kansas State University**

Kansas State University's Applied Park Science Lab in conjunction with the Geographic Information Systems Spatial Analysis Lab are excited to announce a Ph.D. level graduate research assistant position starting January of 2022. The assistantship will be part of the Park Management and Conservation Program. The applicant should be proficient with GIS and is interested in conservation of national parks and other protected areas. The successful applicant will assist Dr. Brian Peterson and other colleagues with a multi-year project to effectively track commercial air tours over 23 national park units and assist in data processing, analysis, and reporting. The position will also include GIS efforts related to visitor use management at Cimarron National Grassland (a unit of the US Forest Service) and other research projects associated with the Applied Park Science Lab. Additionally, teaching opportunities will be available.

Qualifications

- Proficient with: ArcGIS Pro, Python, ArcPy, NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, GeoPandas, and R
- Familiar with GitHub
- An earned master's degree that involved substantial GIS analyses and resulted in at least one peer-reviewed research publication
- Excellent scientific writing skills

Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Assisting with the development of script-based GIS tools
- Data management for 23 national parks
- GIS analysis
- Scientific reporting
- Presenting findings to the National Park Service and at professional conferences
- Assisting with GIS work at Cimarron National Grassland
- Assisting with other projects at the Applied Park Science Lab

Compensation and Hours

This position is a 12-month, 20-hour per week position that includes competitive stipend, tuition, and health insurance benefits. The position will be fully funded for three years with opportunities to achieve funding for the fourth year.

Application Process

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Dr. Peterson (brianpeterson@ksu.edu) prior to submitting their application materials. Applicants wishing to be considered for the assistantship should submit the following materials via email to Dr. Peterson by September 30th, 2021:

- 1-page cover letter articulating skills and interest pertaining to the assistantship
- CV
- Names and emails of 3 academic references who can confirm the applicant's proficient skillsets

