



Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
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**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 00013255
REQUISITION # 533712**

- Title:** Wildlife Landscape Ecologist– Wildlife Ecology and Conservation (Assistant or Associate Professor)
- Location:** Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida
- Salary:** Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience
- Review Date:** Review of application materials will begin on December 1, 2024 and will continue until a viable applicant pool is established. Interviews are expected to begin in January 2025.

The [Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences](#) is creating an environment that affirms community across all dimensions. We particularly welcome applicants who can contribute to such an environment through their scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and professional service. If an accommodation due to a disability is needed to apply for this position, please call 352-392-2477 or the Florida Relay System at 800-955-8771 (TDD) or visit [Accessibility at UF](#) .

We are seeking a dynamic scholar, educator, and communicator for a 9-month tenured or tenure-accruing appointment available in the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation (WEC), Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. Applications at the associate professor level will be considered. The appointment will be 40% Teaching (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences) and 60% Research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station).

Our department recognizes the need for expertise in landscape ecology to address pressing issues in ecology and conservation of wildlife and their habitats at the state, regional, national, and international arenas. Importantly, such expertise in landscape ecology will enhance students' learning centered on ecology and conservation. This hire is expected to further cement our department as a national leader in wildlife ecology and conservation sciences; and contribute to UF's reputation as an outstanding institution for natural resources research and education. We are an inclusive wildlife program that encompasses both basic and applied research involving a wide breadth of organisms.

Duties and Responsibilities

Assigned responsibilities will include:

1. Developing an internationally recognized research program centered on the study of landscape ecology in the context of wildlife ecology and conservation.
2. Teaching two courses and a seminar annually in the general area of spatial and landscape ecology, including WIS4203C Landscape Ecology and Conservation and a graduate course in their specialty. WIS4203C is a required course in our undergraduate curriculum and teaches core concepts of landscape ecology, applications of spatial techniques to the study of wildlife ecology and conservation, and introductory-level applications of spatial analyses in QGIS.

The successful candidate will participate actively in undergraduate and graduate education by chairing and serving on graduate committees; supervising thesis, dissertation and undergraduate research; and publishing research results with students. Faculty are encouraged to participate in professional development activities related to teaching and mentoring and may teach courses and seminars.

Because of the IFAS land-grant mission, all faculty are expected to be supportive of and engaged in three mission areas—Research, Teaching and Extension—regardless of the assignment split specified in the position description.

Qualifications

Required:

A doctorate (PhD or DPhil; foreign equivalent acceptable) from a relevant field is required. We expect formal training in ecology and/or conservation biology to be demonstrated. Candidates must have a demonstrated commitment to teaching, mentoring, and promoting a diverse educational and professional environment. They should show willingness to work with natural resource agencies, NGOs, and other interested parties. Candidates will demonstrate their skills in verbal and written communication, interpersonal relationships across cultures, and commitment to grantsmanship. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the Land-Grant system. Candidates must also have a commitment to [UF core values](#).

Preferred:

Preferred qualifications/attributes: We are particularly interested in candidates who display excellence in applying and/or developing approaches to landscape ecology that advance the study of wildlife ecology and conservation in several of the following areas:

1. Wildlife landscape ecology research: application, adaptation, and/or development of concepts and tools for the study of landscape-scale patterns and processes of wildlife populations and communities.
2. Publication record: evidence of research dissemination in impactful ways, showing potential to develop a research program that complements and expands on the department's current strengths.
3. Teaching and mentoring: experience with graduate and undergraduate students. Foster learning environments that explore theoretical foundations and applications in wildlife landscape ecology
4. Professional experience: research and/or teaching after completion of a terminal degree.
5. Technological knowledge: advanced knowledge of modern approaches of spatial modeling and spatial analysis.
6. Leadership experience: roles within organizations/projects that demonstrate interpersonal and

organizational skills.

7. Global perspective: bringing a broad perspective to local topics or issues; extrapolating research results beyond immediate projects.
8. Professional recognition: grants, awards, speaking engagements, professional appointments.

Examples of qualifications from exceptional candidates include expertise and experience in one or more of the following 1) understanding landscape fragmentation, habitat connectivity and landscape permeability, 2) using Geographic Information Systems and remote sensing technologies to address questions in spatial ecology, 3) modeling animal distributions, animal movement, habitat suitability and conservation strategies, 4) investigating the impacts of global change and developing conservation strategies, 5) integrating biodiversity conservation with ecosystem service provision and land-use management, 6) working with biologists, conservationists, communities, land managers or policymakers to address landscape-scale conservation challenges, and 7) interdisciplinary approaches to wildlife landscape ecology.

Background Information:

The [University of Florida](#) is a Land-Grant, Sea-Grant, and Space-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 56,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The [Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences](#) includes the [College of Agricultural and Life Sciences](#), the [Florida Agricultural Experiment Station](#), the [Florida Cooperative Extension Service](#), the [College of Veterinary Medicine](#), the [Florida Sea Grant](#) program, and encompasses 16 on-campus academic departments and schools, 12 Research and Educational Centers (REC) located throughout the state, 6 Research sites/demonstration units administered by RECs or academic departments, and Florida Cooperative Extension Service offices in all 67 counties (counties operate and maintain). The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. UF/IFAS employs nearly 4,500 people, which includes approximately 990 salaried faculty and 1,400 permanent support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation's largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

The University of Florida launched a \$1 billion initiative to establish itself as one of the country's most preeminent institutions of higher education in artificial intelligence; including a \$70 million artificial intelligence partnership with NVIDIA, a planned 19,000-square-foot AI hub at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, and hosts HiPerGator, the third most powerful computer among educational institutions in the world.

The programs of the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation emphasize biological and human dimensions of wildlife ecology and conservation in local to international arenas. The Department's existing strengths in spatial ecology, population modeling, wildlife disease ecology,

conservation genetics, and environmental communication, among others, support strong collaborations. Department faculty may be affiliated with the Center for Latin American Studies, Center for African Studies, and the School of Natural Resources and the Environment. Also housed within the Department is the Florida Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, whose principal focus is on wetlands ecology, coastal ecology, decision science, and endangered and threatened species conservation and management. The nearby 3,600-hectare Ordway-Swisher Biological Station provides an outdoor laboratory for teaching and a site for long-term field research, and has been designated as a National Science Foundation NEON core site.

Several units on or nearby the University of Florida campus complement the teaching and research programs of the Department, including The Florida Climate Institute, an interdisciplinary center hosted at UF and comprising 12 Florida universities; the Tropical Conservation and Development Program in the Center for Latin American Studies; Center for Wetlands; UF Biodiversity Institute, Florida Museum of Natural History; the Florida Field Station (Gainesville) of the U.S.D.A. Wildlife Research Laboratory; the Wildlife Research Laboratory of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; the Wetlands Aquatic Research Center (WARC) of the US Geological Survey, and others.

Employment Conditions

This position is available starting August 2025, and will be filled as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. Compensation is commensurate with the education, experience, and qualifications of the selected applicant.

Nominations

Nominations are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee. This information should be sent to:

Please refer to Requisition # 533712
Robert McCleery
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
PO Box 110430
Gainesville, FL 32605

Telephone: 352-846-0566
Facsimile: 352-392-6984
Electronic Mail: ramccleery@ufl.edu

Application Information

- Individuals wishing to apply should go online to [Careers at UF](#) and submit:
 - Cover letter that states applicant's interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above
 - Curriculum vitae
 - Teaching and mentoring statement on philosophy and practice (1 page max)
 - Research statement aligning current and future research program with this position (2-pages max)

- Contact information (including email addresses) for 3 individuals willing to serve as references
- Unofficial transcripts

Selected candidate will be required to provide an official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered “official” if a designation of “Issued to Student” is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\)](#).

Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the US. The University of Florida is a public institution and subject to all requirements under Florida Sunshine and Public Record laws.

The University of Florida is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information, and veteran status in all aspects of employment including recruitment, hiring, promotion, transfers, discipline, terminations, wage and salary administration, benefits, and training. The University and greater Gainesville community enjoy a variety of cultural events, restaurants, year-round outdoor recreational activities, and social opportunities.

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