The Department of Environmental Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) invites applications for two (2) positions of Specialist in Ecology under the direction of Christopher Wilmers and Heiko Wittmer (Victoria University of Wellington). The successful applicants will conduct fieldwork for a new research project in Siskiyou County, northern California, funded by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The study is aimed at understanding the dynamics of black-tailed and mule deer (Odocoileus hemionus) in two separate areas encompassing a range of environmental and management conditions. A particular focus of the project is to tease apart the effects of environmental variables including habitat quality and puma (Puma concolor) predation on deer population dynamics.

Specific duties include (but are not limited to) providing input on study design; contributing to fieldwork including 1) Deer: fawn captures, monitoring radio-collared deer (adults and fawns), investigating deer mortality sites, conducting vegetation surveys, conducting deer pellet surveys, working with camera traps, data management and entry, and other duties as assigned; 2) Pumas: locating designated GPS locations, conduct kill site analyses, working with remote cameras, data management and entry, and other duties as assigned; contributing to data management, analysis, and presentation. Specialists may have the opportunity to assist with puma captures with hours and trapping which may require handling bait. Under the directors’ supervision, the specialist will guide interns in the field. An ability to maintain excellent working relationship to local CDFW personnel aiding with the study is essential.

We are particularly interested in applicants with previous experience in ungulate ecology and predator-prey interactions. Given the study areas are in remote and rugged field settings, it is important that technicians can work long hours safely and independently under these conditions.

This is an excellent position for someone with a desire to conduct fieldwork involving large ungulates and carnivores. Preference will be given to highly motivated individuals who have the ability to take initiative, have an interest in doing future graduate work and a willingness to live in remote field camp for extended periods of time.

RANK: Junior Specialist, Step 1

SALARY: $36,984.00 full time annual salary

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:

- BS degree in wildlife biology or related field
- Experience conducting fieldwork on large mammals
- Experience using radio telemetry to monitor and locate animals, including triangulating animal positions and locating dropped collars/mortalities
- Experience using GPS and topographic maps to navigate and locate pre-determined transects

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Experience using snowmobiles
- Experience assessing mortality sites to determine predator identity or assessing mortality sites of known predators or extensive experience in mammal tracking
- Conducting surveys in remote and rugged field conditions, including hiking and navigating using map, compass, and GPS in steep and brushy terrain
- Experience driving 4WD trucks in muddy and snowy conditions and a valid driver license
- Experience setting unbaited camera traps
- California plant identification experience
- Wilderness First Aid
- Experience working as a collaborative member of a team

POSITION AVAILABLE: April 15, 2016. (Appointments are contingent upon availability of funding)

TERM OF APPOINTMENT: The initial appointment is for one year, with the possibility of extension through July 2019. Reappointment is also contingent upon availability of funding.

TO APPLY: Applications are accepted via the UCSC Academic Recruit online system, and must include letter of application addressing how you meet the qualifications, curriculum vitae, university transcripts, and three letters of recommendation.* Documents/materials must be submitted as PDF files.

Apply at https://recruit.ucsc.edu/apply/JPF00345

Refer to Position JPF00345-16T in all correspondence.

*CLOSING DATE: Review of applications will begin on February 29, 2016. To ensure full consideration, applications should be complete and letters of recommendation received by this date. The position will remain open until filled, but not later than June 30, 2016.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, or protected veteran status. UC Santa Cruz is committed to excellence through diversity and strives to establish a climate that welcomes, celebrates, and promotes respect for the contributions of all students and employees. Inquiries regarding the University’s equal employment opportunity policies may be directed to: Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064; (831) 459-2686.

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
JUNIOR RESEARCH SPECIALIST, ECOLOGY

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Under Federal law, the University of California may employ only individuals who are legally able to work in the United States as established by providing documents as specified in the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. Certain UCSC positions funded by federal contracts or sub-contracts require the selected candidate to pass an E-Verify check. More information is available here or from the Academic Personnel Office (APO) at (831) 459-4300.

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VISIT THE APO WEB SITE AT: http://apo.ucsc.edu

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