



## **Ph.D. Research Assistantship in Red wolf movement ecology**

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The Buchholtz Lab at Clemson University and with the USGS South Carolina Cooperative Wildlife & Fisheries Research Unit is seeking to recruit 1 Ph.D. student. The student will be in the Clemson University Forestry & Environmental Conservation Department – Wildlife & Fisheries Biology Ph.D. program and will be based in person at Clemson (non-remote).

This research project aims to use modeling and GIS to explore the socio-environmental landscape for red wolves in their current North Carolina range. The red wolf is a critically endangered species and the focus of the USFWS Red Wolf Recovery Program. Red wolves face a heterogenous landscape of risks and resources which can influence their movement and survival. The selected PhD student will develop agent-based models to investigate how red wolves navigate this mosaic, with the applied purpose of informing USFWS translocation and management actions. This is a modeling-based project that leverages existing data and ABMs. Please note, student participation in collaring and/or translocating red wolves is not within the scope of this position.

The Buchholtz Lab is part of the South Carolina Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, where our mission is to co-produce research with and provide support for our cooperators at South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Clemson University, and the public. We work on issues that directly apply to conservation decisions and management. The Cooperative Research Units are a unique system – please check out <https://www.usgs.gov/programs/cooperative-research-units> for more information to learn about the CRUs and how graduate education is a key part of our mission.

**Desired start date:** Fall 2024

**Minimum qualifications:** Master's degree in ecology, conservation biology, geography, or related fields required. Experience with animal movement models and/or agent-based models, and strong GIS skills will be preferred.

**Funding:** This assistantship covers a tuition waiver and a 12-month stipend (~\$30,000). Funding is guaranteed for 3 years pending federal budgets. Subsequent years will need to be funded through internal and/or external opportunities (e.g., teaching assistant positions, grants, fellowships, etc.); there will be support in securing these funds. In addition, the student will have a budget for conference travel, supplies, and research.

**To apply:** Submit the application form at [bit.ly/Buchholtz\\_RWPHDapply](https://bit.ly/Buchholtz_RWPHDapply). Required application materials for the position will be uploaded through the application form and include CV, unofficial transcripts, and contact information for references. If you have questions about the position, please reach out to Dr. Erin Buchholtz at [ekbuchh@clemson.edu](mailto:ekbuchh@clemson.edu).

Applications due by **February 25** for priority consideration.

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