

MS Position in Landscape Genomics Biological Sciences, University of Memphis

Position Details

The Puckett Lab seeks a qualified and enthusiastic student for an MS position in Conservation and Evolutionary Genomics. The successful applicant will compare landscape connectivity of American black (*Ursus americanus*) and brown (*U. arctos*) bears across southeastern Alaska. Specifically, they will investigate population structure, landscape features that act as barriers or promote dispersal, and assess if regions of the landscape act as sinks for either species. Secondly, they will analyze 30 years of harvest records to assess spatial-temporal trends.

Duties include wet lab work preparing RAD-seq libraries, bioinformatic processing of raw population genomic data, and landscape genomic analyses. Student will work closely with managers from Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and participate in writing interim and final reports, writing scientific papers, and giving oral presentations to both management and scientific audiences (specifically through attending conferences). Note, the field work for this project has already been completed.

Student will receive 2.5 years of stipend support (3 semesters RA, 2 semester TA, plus summer stipend) and tuition waivers. To learn more about the graduate program and intellectual community within the department, visit: <http://www.memphis.edu/biology/>

Required Qualifications

Experience with GIS, preferably ESRI products

Interest in population genomics for management and conservation

Product oriented with strong time management skills

Preferred Qualifications

Experience with R

Basic bioinformatics

Wet lab skills: pipetting, DNA extraction, using a thermocycler

To Apply

Please email Emily Puckett (Emily.Puckett@memphis.edu) with either informal inquiries, or an application (CV, cover letter highlighting relevant experience and motivation for the position, and contact information for two references) as a single pdf. Review of applications will begin Friday June 18, 2021 and continue until a candidate has been identified. Start date is Aug 2021. Please note, position is contingent upon final funding decision.

Emily Puckett

Assistant Professor

Department of Biological Sciences- University of Memphis

<https://puckettresearch.org/>