



Montana State University  
Bozeman

Faculty Position  
Vacancy Announcement



**Assistant Professor of Ecology - Terrestrial Animal Community Ecologist**  
**Department of Ecology**

**Search Number** 1024-2

**Starting Date** August 2010 preferred.

**Salary** Commensurate with experience and qualifications. Tenure track academic year appointment.

**Departmental Information** The Ecology Department at Montana State University is part of the College of Letters and Science. Established as a separate department in 1999, Ecology is recognized as a leading department in both teaching and research that addresses fundamental and applied ecological questions for Montana, the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the Northern Rockies, and further afield. The department offers B.S. degrees with emphases in Ecology and Evolution, Fish and Wildlife Management, Organismal Biology, and Biology Teaching, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Biological Sciences, Fish and Wildlife Biology, and Ecology and Environmental Sciences. With approximately 260 undergraduate majors and 65 graduate students, the department has one of the largest and most active graduate programs at Montana State University. The department also houses Montana's USGS Cooperative Fishery Research Unit. The Ecology department maintains close ties with the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics, Land Resources and Environmental Sciences, Plant Science and Plant Pathology, Animal and Range Sciences, as well as the Big Sky Institute. Collaborating resource agencies include Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the USGS Northern Rockies Science Center, both headquartered on campus, as well as Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, and the Gallatin National Forest. Montana State University is a founding member of the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) and home to the Yellowstone NEON ecological observatory.

Founded in 1893 as a Land Grant University, Montana State University is composed of seven academic colleges and a graduate school and boasts a friendly, supportive faculty and campus environment. Currently, the University hosts an enrollment of over 12,000 students, including approximately 1,200 graduate students. MSU is recognized as one of 94 U.S. research universities representing the top tier of the Carnegie Foundation rankings. MSU is located in Bozeman, MT an extended community of about 70,000 nestled in the Rocky Mountains in southwest Montana. In addition to providing access to an extraordinary ecosystem for teaching and research programs, Bozeman is renowned for year-round recreational and cultural opportunities to include access to world class ski areas, blue-ribbon trout fishing streams and the Gallatin National Forest. The local airport is served by four national airlines and is the second busiest airport in the state.

Named an All American City, Bozeman boasts high quality medical facilities, very low crime rate, many fine restaurants, acclaimed public and private schools, a symphony orchestra and choir, an annual opera, and nationally known events such as the Sweet Pea Festival held in early August of each year. Skiing Magazine identified Bozeman, with three major ski areas within an hour's drive, as the fourth top US skiing town in its September 2004 Magazine. Bizjournals.com ranked Bozeman #2 on the list of American Dreamtowns - small towns that offer the best quality of life without metropolitan hassles. The K-12 educational system, growing reputation of Montana State University, and pristine natural environment of the area combine to make Bozeman one of America's most desirable university towns. Bozeman is located in the beautiful Gallatin Valley, 90 miles north of Yellowstone National Park.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

Seeking a Terrestrial Animal Community Ecologist at the level of Assistant Professor. We seek individuals with interests in fundamental ecological questions and the use of ecological theory to solve important applied problems. The position is part of a clustered hire in community ecology to complement our existing strength in population biology.

Research programs that would integrate well with the existing faculty's research programs are especially desired. Possibilities include plant-animal interactions, community ecology of small or meso-mammals, and the influence of climate change and anthropogenic changes on ecological communities and wildlife management. Opportunities exist to collaborate with interdisciplinary teams to understand ecosystem processes in the Greater Yellowstone region, Intermountain West, Northern Great Plains, and elsewhere; consequently, we desire candidates with effective interpersonal skills and a strong interest in participating in integrative programs involving multiple disciplines and both academic and natural resource management professionals.

The successful candidate's teaching assignment will likely include introductory biology, mammalogy or a fish and wildlife capstone, and an upper-division undergraduate or graduate-level class dependent upon the applicant's interest and expertise and the needs and interests of the department. The successful candidate will be expected to maintain an excellent program of research and publication that includes graduate student participation. There is also an expectation that at least a portion of the research program will be based in the region.

**Required Qualifications**

1. PhD in Ecology, Fish and Wildlife Management/Biology, or a closely related field.
2. A solid record of research and publication, commensurate with time expired since the candidate received his/her degree.
3. Potential to secure extramural funding from multiple sources.
4. An emphasis on field-oriented research.
5. College or university-level teaching experience.

**Preferred Qualifications**

1. Strong background and interest in undergraduate and graduate education.
2. Strong background and interest in interdisciplinary or collaborative research.
3. Research experience that addresses both basic ecology and applied problems.
4. Ability to effectively mentor a diverse student body, including women and minorities.

5. Participation in service to the profession.

**Application  
Procedure**

Screening of applications will begin January 15, 2010 and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. To apply, submit: 1) a letter of interest addressing the required and preferred qualifications; 2) a CV; 3) description of research accomplishments and future directions; 4) a statement of teaching experience and interests; 5) copies of up to three publications and 6) the names and full contact information of three references. Electronic submittal of applications is highly preferred and should include the applicants signature on the letter of application. If submitting electronically, all components (1-6) of the application should be incorporated into a single \*.pdf file.

Montana State University is an institution that is committed to cultural diversity and encourages applications from members of underrepresented groups to include women and minority candidates.

Submit materials to:

Terrestrial Animal Ecology Search Committee  
c/o Judy Van Andel  
Montana State University  
310 Lewis Hall  
P O Box 173460  
Bozeman, MT 59717-3460  
406-994-4548  
jvanandel@montana.edu

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ADA/EO/AA/VETERAN'S PREFERENCE: In compliance with the Montana Veteran's Employment Preference Act, MSU provides preference in employment to veterans, disabled veterans, and certain eligible relatives of veterans. MSU makes accommodation for any known disability that may interfere with an applicant's ability to compete in the hiring process or an employee's ability to perform the duties of the job. To claim veteran's preference or request accommodation, contact Human Resources/Affirmative Action, Hamilton Hall, MSU, Bozeman MT 59717-2430; 406-994-2042. MSU's Affirmative Action Non-Discrimination Policy and Procedures are on the Web at [www2.montana.edu/policy/affirmative\\_action/](http://www2.montana.edu/policy/affirmative_action/).

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