UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Graduate research opportunities

We are recruiting between 1 and 3 graduate students (pending project funding) on an exciting project at the wildlife-livestock interface.

Research Area: The successful candidate(s) will conduct research characterizing the risk of pathogen transmission and crop/forage/pasture damages at the interface of beef cattle and wildlife in Western Canada, through multi-disciplinary collaboration. This project will leverage existing data across Alberta and Saskatchewan to identify hotspots of overlap, and include field-based data collection to characterize cattle and wild ungulates interactions (i.e. direct or indirect contacts). This project will be conducted in collaboration with the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute, the University of Saskatchewan, and the National Wildlife Research Center, USDA, offering unique and diverse learning opportunities.

Program and Place of Work: Pending project funding, this project will support 1-3 graduate students (MSc and PhD level) in the Veterinary Medical Sciences program (VMS) through the Department of Ecosystem and Public Health in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (http://vet.ucalgary.ca/graduate/) at the University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. This project will be conducted in collaboration with the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute, the University of Saskatchewan, and the National Wildlife Research Center, USDA, with opportunities for temporary placements. The successful applicant(s) will work closely with a growing team investigating health at the wildlife-livestock interface in local and international contexts, with possibility to involve in a variety of other disease and health ecology research projects. Research will be carried out in Alberta, Canada, but remote enrollment may be temporarily feasible as required by COVID-related restrictions.

Qualifications: Candidates should have a Master's degree in animal science, agriculture, biology, ecology, statistics, or related field, or a Bachelor's degree in the above discipline with strong record of research, or a professional degree in veterinary medicine. The candidate should have strong quantitative skills, or at least interest in developing skills in data analysis and ecological modeling. The successful candidate will have a strong aptitude for communication and teamwork and have demonstrated good academic performance in their past program.

Salary: Candidates must be academically competitive and will be expected to apply for external funding. Minimum stipend is $25,000/yr. For outstanding students, internal top-up award opportunities are available on a competitive basis.

Start Date: The positions would start in May 2021 at the earliest or September 2021 at the latest, with funding for at least 3 years (pending project funding). Application deadline for VMS graduate program and admission requirements can be found here: https://vet.ucalgary.ca/future-students/graduate-students/admission-requirements. (This is just for your information and for the purpose of assessing eligibility: do not apply to the VMS graduate program unless you have been asked to do so).

Application Interest: Interested candidates should send by email (mpruvot@ucalgary.ca) a current curriculum vitae, a scanned copy of transcript or listing of course grades, names and contact information for three references, and a cover letter describing your interest in the project.

For further information about the above research opportunities, please contact Dr. Mathieu Pruvot at mpruvot@ucalgary.ca.