



Graduate Research Assistantship:
Evaluation of Impacts of Conservation Corps Projects

About the Assistantship: A highly qualified candidate who is committed to pursuing a Ph.D. degree in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management (PRTM), College of Natural Resources (CNR) at NC State University is being sought for a graduate research assistantship. The selected individual will engage in applied research evaluating whether conservation corps programs improve ecosystem health in habitats and quality of trails. Specifically, the graduate assistant will help lead a national project that will involve the development of new assessment techniques and tools and adapted citizen-science approaches to evaluate the impact of environmental stewardship projects. The assistantship is a 12-month 20-hour per week position **beginning August, 2015**. The position includes a competitive stipend, tuition, and health insurance benefits. Funds for professional development purposes (conference presentations) are available. This position is funded for 3 years and is renewable each year based on satisfactory academic progress.

Responsibilities: Responsibilities related to this assistantship include, but are not limited to the following:

- Actively engage with the evaluation team and develop new areas of inquiry in collaboration with faculty advisors and project collaborators. Research activities entail literature reviews, research design, project administration, data collection and analysis, and result dissemination.
- Facilitate training and coordination of partners to implement data collection.
- Assist or lead in writing technical and non-technical reports, fact sheets and other public-audience deliverables, and peer-reviewed journal articles.
- Maintain good graduate standing and make satisfactory progress toward completion of degree.

Qualifications: Potential candidates must meet admission standards. Candidates must have positive recommendations from previous positions. Individuals with background or experience in quantitative and qualitative research methods, GIS, modeling ecosystem services, and impact evaluation of park and wildland management are highly desired. Travel and field work is required.

About the College: CNR (<http://cnr.ncsu.edu>) is a world leader in the sustainable use of natural resources. CNR's comprehensive approach to teaching, research and service encompasses the many and varied ways in which people's physical, economic and social needs are met through the wise use of natural resources. CNR is committed to interdisciplinary research, teaching and engagement, as nurturing and enjoying the environment and engineering sustainable products go hand-in-hand with helping communities and enterprises thrive. The faculty, staff, students and alumni of CNR are discovering and sharing real world solutions to real world problems everyday.

About the Department: PRTM (<http://cnr.ncsu.edu/prtm>) is a multidisciplinary department that addresses critical research questions related to the human dimensions of natural and built environments, human health and well-being, equitable and sustainable tourism, as well as geovisualization, spatial analytics, and GIS. The mission of PRTM is to advance and disseminate scholarship concerning management and use of natural and cultural resources for recreation, tourism, and sport through research, teaching and public engagement.

For further information and application instructions, contact:

Dr. Mike Edwards (mbedwards@ncsu.edu) Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management, NC State University, Raleigh, NC. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until an optimal candidate is identified.

NC State University promotes equal opportunity and prohibits discrimination and harassment based upon one's age, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation and veteran status.