

## 2-YEAR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP: RECREATIONAL ECOLOGY IN THE YELLOWSTONE TO YUKON REGION

**Summary:** The Yellowstone to Yukon vision is an interconnected system of wild lands and waters stretching from the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem to the northern Yukon, harmonizing the needs of people with those of nature. As well as providing wildlife habitat and holding important ecological values, outdoor spaces are places where people recreate. Identifying how and where people and wildlife co-occur in landscapes is an important part of “large landscape” conservation. This 2-year applied research project will focus on identifying and mapping where people recreate in the Yellowstone to Yukon region, and compiling and modeling the ecological impacts of different types and intensities of use. The position is ideal for landscape and recreation ecologists or conservation scientists with strong geospatial skills and the desire to conduct & communicate applied research that informs management.

**Project description:** The University of Northern British Columbia (Dr. Pamela Wright, UNBC) and the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Dr. Aerin Jacob, Y2Y) seek one postdoctoral fellow to work on this two-year funded project. The appointee will lead a team of researchers and partners to:

- 1) develop a spatially explicit database of motorized/non-motorized trails used for nature-based recreation in the Y2Y region, acquired via partnerships, remotely sensed data, and digitization;
- 2) working from primary and grey literature, and potentially with subject matter experts, review recreation ecology impacts on selected wildlife species and ecosystem components of conservation concern; and,
- 3) develop functional models of disturbance in the Y2Y region, e.g., where structural habitat exists but recreation-related disturbance affects specific species or ecosystem components.

This position is ideal for a collaborative self-starter committed to applied research and actionable science, and with outstanding interpersonal and project management skills. It is anticipated that the appointee will work closely with Y2Y and UNBC researchers, staff, and partners to learn about transboundary conservation and how research can inform conservation and management. Activities may include grant writing and reporting, supervising students and/or technicians, and related technical and non-technical outreach and professional development.

**Qualifications:** Ph.D. in geography, ecology, or conservation-related natural sciences with strong geospatial skills. An interest and background in recreation or road ecology is an asset, as are experience conducting and communicating landscape-level, collaborative research to inform planning.

Essential skills and experience include:

- Proficient in ESRI ArcGIS and R; experience creating and managing databases, multivariate and/or spatial statistics, classifying and applying ecological risk analysis to large remotely sensed/geospatial data sets, LiDAR or satellite imagery, imagery interpretation and analysis, automating or scripting solutions (e.g., Python)

- Publication record (e.g., journal articles, book chapters, funder/agency reports)
- Collaborative approach (especially non-academic) and project management

Desired skills and experience include:

- Leading large projects to completion, supervising undergraduate students or technicians
- Literature reviews and meta-analyses
- Working with government, community, and/or non-profit partners
- Science communication and outreach (including technical and non-technical audiences)

We welcome international applications and from people who identify as under-represented minorities.

**Setting:** Based in either Y2Y head office in Canmore, Alberta (preferred) or UNBC campus in Prince George, British Columbia (significant time spent at the other location) and travel within the Y2Y region.

**Start date:** The appointee will preferably start on or before November 1, 2019.

**Salary:** \$55,000-60,000 CAD per year for two years commensurate with qualifications and experience, second year of funding contingent upon successful progress in year 1.

**To apply:** Applications must include a cover letter (addressing your interest and experience in the topic, how you meet both the essential and desired qualifications, and relationship to career goals), CV, and contact information for three references. Documents/materials must be submitted in a single PDF file ("Y2YPostdoc-FirstNameLastName.pdf") with the position title as the subject header to [pamela.wright@unbc.ca](mailto:pamela.wright@unbc.ca).

**Closing date:** Deadline August 23, 2019 with interviews anticipated in September 2019.

**Web posting:** [www.y2y.net/RecEcolPostdoc](http://www.y2y.net/RecEcolPostdoc)