

## **Utah State University: Master's positions on bighorn sheep movement, demography, and disease dynamics.**

Epidemic and endemic pneumonia places major constraints on bighorn sheep populations throughout the western United States. Here, we seek two exceptional and highly motivated master's students to study bighorn sheep movement ecology, population dynamics, and disease ecology in the intermountain west. Applicants should have a strong interest in wildlife, quantitative, modeling, or disease ecology. The positions will be with Dr. Kezia Manlove at Utah State University, to begin in the fall of 2018.

The incumbents will work with a multiagency team of researchers studying bighorn sheep disease and population dynamics. The first position will use long-term population- and animal-level data to construct integrated population models to understand predictors of bighorn sheep population dynamics in the aftermath of disease die-off events. The second position will use a rich GPS dataset to model bighorn sheep movement, and risk of encountering domestic sheep throughout the state. Both projects will include fieldwork commensurate with long-term monitoring objectives in focal populations.

The projects will be based at Utah State University, in Logan, UT. Successful candidates will be well-organized and self-motivated, with strong written and verbal communication skills. Computational experience, particularly with R, Python, ArcGIS, or SQL, is advantageous, as is some training in standard statistical methodologies. Field experience in wildlife or disease ecology is desirable but not required.

### **Qualifications**

- Exceptional interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills, and the capacity to foster strong collaborations through an interdisciplinary, interagency team
- Strong quantitative and computational skills (e.g., statistics, programming in R, Python, ArcGIS, or SQL)
- BA/BS or similar degree with competitive GPA and GRE scores
- Strong interest in wildlife, movement, or disease ecology
- Demonstrated interest in wildlife or disease management

For more information, please send any questions to Kezia Manlove, [kezia.manlove@gmail.com](mailto:kezia.manlove@gmail.com). Application materials including a resume or CV, a letter addressing interest and qualifications, and three references to should be sent to the same address. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.