



MS position evaluating Humboldt marten populations

We seek a Master's student candidate to support research on the population demographics and distribution of Humboldt marten in northwestern California. The student will join a team of collaborators from Cal Poly Humboldt, the Yurok Tribe, and Oregon State University to assess habitat selection, connectivity, demography, and distribution of Humboldt marten populations on Yurok ancestral territory.

This position offers the opportunity for professional development with tribal partners and will provide hands-on experience working in the field. Successful applicants will need to be eligible and qualified for hire as a Yurok wildlife biology technician, will be required to comply with all Yurok equipment and personnel policies, and be willing to work part-time and gain experience with the Yurok Wildlife Department at the same time as pursuing their MS degree. Funding is provided through a grant awarded to the Yurok tribe and will support part-time work during the academic year (20 hrs/week) and full-time work as a Wildlife Technician during field seasons (~40 hrs/week), ~\$24,000/year. Micaela Szykman Gunther, Professor in the Department of Wildlife at Cal Poly Humboldt, will serve as graduate committee chair and mentor. California residents may be eligible for the CA State University Grant to subsidize in-state tuition.

Cal Poly Humboldt is a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and the Department of Wildlife is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment that recruits, welcomes, and trains the diverse next generation of wildlife biologists. The Gunther lab is a healthy and safe environment committed to maintaining and promoting a diverse, inclusive, and collaborative work environment where members are empowered to share their different views, ideas, and experiences freely and openly.

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Wildlife, Ecology, or related field
- At least one year of field experience working in this field of study
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team to achieve research objectives
- Willingness to work with tribal entities and eligibility to be hired as an employee of the Yurok tribe
- Experience conducting field work and hiking under extreme conditions (e.g., steep slopes, in wet, cold, hot weather, etc.)
- Generally strong field, navigation, mapping, and quantitative skills
- Clean driving record
- All applicants are subject to the Tribe's Drug and Alcohol Free Work Place Policy including pre-employment screening

Preferred Qualifications:

- Field experience in a leadership role
- Experience with remote camera surveys
- Experience working and camping in remote areas
- Experience with non-invasive genetic sampling
- Experience using GIS and R to manage and analyze wildlife data
- Experience working or otherwise engaging with indigenous tribes or culture

Interested applicants should send the following materials (ideally in a single pdf) to micaela.szykman.gunther@humboldt.edu with subject line “**Marten MS 2024**”:

1. A letter of research interests that highlights relevant skills, field experiences, and career goals;
2. A cv or resume, including contact information for at least two references; and
3. Transcripts (unofficial acceptable) from all undergraduate institutions

The successful applicant will be asked to submit an official application to the Natural Resources – Wildlife graduate program at Cal Poly Humboldt and separately and additionally for hiring by the Yurok Tribe Wildlife Department. Anticipated start date for field work is April 2024. Anticipated start date in graduate program at Cal Poly Humboldt is August 2024.



Applications received by Dec 22nd will receive full consideration.