



Postdoctoral position in Carnivore Connectivity and Conservation

Wildlife Coexistence Lab, University of British Columbia

The [Wildlife Coexistence Lab](#) (WildCo) at the University of British Columbia seeks a postdoctoral researcher in quantitative wildlife ecology to work as part of the Canada Research Chair program in Terrestrial Mammal Conservation and the [WildCAM](#) network. The researcher will work under the guidance of Principal Investigator Dr. Cole Burton and collaborator Dr. Bill Harrower (BC Government), with opportunities for strong collaboration with biologists and practitioners in government, First Nations, and non-government organizations.

The research will focus primarily on **investigating landscape connectivity for mammalian carnivores in the South Coast region of British Columbia (BC)**. Specific research directions and activities will be developed with the PI and project partners and may include:

- Developing habitat suitability and connectivity models for focal carnivore species in southwestern BC, including grizzly bear, black bear, cougar, coyote, bobcat, wolverine, and other mustelids.
- Collecting and analyzing camera trap data to validate and improve habitat-based models.
- Collecting and interpreting expert knowledge and other data sources to inform connectivity and conservation planning.
- Predicting changes to connectivity from anticipated stressors including infrastructure development, recreation activity, and climate change.
- Integrating wildlife monitoring into a framework for management decisions (e.g., structured decision making).

Desired qualifications include:

- Ph.D. in animal ecology or related field.
- Advanced skills in GIS, landscape analysis, and data management for open science.
- Advanced skills in statistical analysis and proficiency using R statistical software.
- Experience developing habitat and connectivity models (e.g. resource selection, least cost path analysis, circuit theory).
- Experience conducting research on terrestrial mammals, including familiarity with field data collection.

- Strong writing skills and evidence of research productivity, including lead author of recent peer-reviewed publications.
- Strong communication skills and desire to contribute to a collaborative work environment, including mentorship of graduate and undergraduate students, liaison with non-academic partners, and engaging with First Nations.
- Demonstrated experience in obtaining external and competitive research funds.
- Passion for translating science into conservation action.

The position will start as soon as possible and be based in the Faculty of Forestry at UBC's Vancouver campus (start date negotiable and remote working options may be considered if eligible to work in Canada). Salary level anticipated at \$55,000 CAD + benefits (to be confirmed; information on benefits available at www.postdocs.ubc.ca). Funding is available for 1 year, with potential for multi-year renewal. The successful applicants will join a vibrant lab group with opportunities to mentor graduate and undergraduate students and contribute to other WildCo projects and the emerging WildCAM network (wildcams.ca). They will also be part of the UBC's [Biodiversity Research Centre](#) and have opportunity to be involved in other related initiatives, including the new Interdisciplinary Biodiversity Solutions cluster ([IBioS](#)).

Applications should be submitted as a single pdf attachment by email to wildlife.ubc@gmail.com, with the subject "WildCo connectivity postdoc 2022" and file name "LastName.FirstName.pdf", and should include:

- 1) 1-page cover letter stating your interest and key qualifications,
- 2) CV including contact information for 3 references, and
- 3) 1-3 writing samples (e.g. recent peer-reviewed publications).

Equity and diversity are essential to academic excellence. An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the B.C. Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as an Indigenous person.

Applications will be reviewed as they are received and will continue until suitable candidates are identified. We regret that we will not be able to personally respond to all applications.

