



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Forestry



PhD Position in UBC's Wildlife Coexistence Lab:
Caribou conservation and community dynamics

The [Wildlife Coexistence Lab](#) (WildCo) at the [University of British Columbia](#) is seeking a graduate student to begin a **four-year PhD position in May 2025**. The research will be pursued under the supervision of Associate Professor Cole Burton in collaboration with partners in government and Indigenous organizations. The successful candidate will develop a PhD project with Dr. Burton and collaborators having a primary focus on the conservation and management of caribou and other mammal species in the Chilcotin Plateau of west-central British Columbia. Focal research topics may include: effects of forest harvest, wildfire and mountain pine beetle on caribou and interacting species; consequences of wolf population reduction on community dynamics; and effectiveness of habitat management and restoration. Multispecies surveys with camera traps will form a key methodological tool in the research.

Desired qualifications: Applicants should hold an MSc in ecology (or related field) with experience and interest in animal biology, conservation science, and wildlife management. A strong desire to work with others on the application of research to conservation problems is a key desired quality. Specific experience and skills relevant to this position include: remote fieldwork, wildlife surveys using camera traps and other methods, statistical modelling and spatial analysis, writing and publishing for technical and non-technical audiences, collaborating with a diverse team and working with Indigenous communities. The position will be based in the Faculty of Forestry at the UBC campus in Vancouver, Canada.

Funding: The position will be funded at a *minimum* stipend level of CAD \$28,000/year for 4 years. The successful applicant will also be supported in applying for an NSERC doctoral scholarship and/or other sources of funding to supplement/extend stipend, including opportunities for UBC Awards and Graduate Teaching Assistantships (see [UBC Forestry](#)). Funding is available to support the costs of research and related activities (e.g. computing, conference travel).

Application: Interested applicants should send an email to wildlife.ubc@gmail.com by 15 September 2024 with the Subject: "PhD in Caribou Conservation" and include a single pdf with: a) brief statement of interest, b) Curriculum Vitae, and c) academic transcripts (unofficial copies ok). **Full applications to the UBC graduate program will be due by 1 October 2024 for May 2025 start** (further details at [UBC Forestry](#) webpage; later start negotiable).

The [WildCo](#) lab is a supportive group of individuals that are passionate about making a positive impact on human-wildlife coexistence. Applications are encouraged from members of groups that have been historically underrepresented or marginalized in science and academia.