

Position Announcement: Habitat Assessment Crew Member for Forest and Wildlife Conservation Project

The Wolfe Lab at Michigan Technological University is seeking motivated and resilient individuals to join our **Habitat Assessment Crew**. This initiative is focused on measuring forest structure through Lidar, implementing plant surveys for vegetative diversity, and sampling insects and fruits for wildlife food resources across Michigan's Upper Peninsula. This role is pivotal in contributing to our comprehensive understanding of habitat quality and its effects on local bird populations.



Position Overview:

As a member of the Habitat Assessment Crew, you will work closely with a dedicated team to conduct critical field research **throughout remote areas in Michigan's Upper Peninsula**. This paid position offers \$20/hour from **mid-April through mid-October**, weather permitting, with flexibility to accommodate fall and summer semester schedules for MTU students. The use of a personal vehicle to and from field sites with reimbursement of mileage is possible, although candidates without a personal vehicle will also be considered. Housing in Houghton, Michigan will need to be secured by the candidate with the help of the PhD student and supporting staff.

Responsibilities:

- Measuring forest structure using Lidar technology.
- Conducting detailed plant surveys to assess vegetative diversity.
- Sampling insects and fruits to evaluate wildlife food resources.
- Working in diverse weather conditions and challenging environments.
- Collaborating within a diverse team and working effectively under various worldviews.
- Operating independently and following directions as required for project success.

Requirements:

- Strong work ethic and resilience in challenging outdoor conditions, willingness to camp in remote settings.
- Ability to begin the field day pre-dawn and work into the afternoon if necessary.
- Passionate about fieldwork, conservation, and ecological research.
- Effective teamwork skills, able to work harmoniously with individuals of diverse backgrounds.
- Prior experience in habitat assessment, Lidar, or related fields is advantageous but not necessary; comprehensive training will be provided.
- Ability to **identify Michigan's U.P. 's plant species** to family, or eagerness to learn.

To Apply:

Please send a letter of interest highlighting your suitability for this role, especially your ability to thrive under difficult field conditions. Include any relevant experience, your CV with references, and possible dates for field availability **in one file attachment with subject "Habitat Assessment Crew for Stopover - Your Name"** by **March 30th**. Applications should be sent to PhD student Ellie Resendiz at eresendi@mtu.edu, and P.I. Jared Wolfe at jdwolfe@mtu.edu and will be reviewed as they are received, **interviews beginning March 25**.

This position is not just a job; it's an opportunity to make a tangible impact on conservation efforts and gain invaluable experience in avian research. If you're experienced in the field, love birds and the outdoors, and are eager to learn and contribute to our understanding of songbird habitat quality, we encourage you to apply. ***We maintain a high expectation and dedication to include scientists from under-represented groups in STEM, and highly encourage individuals from these groups to apply.***