

PhD Position, Quantitative Population Ecology of Seabirds
School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences (SAFS), University of Washington, Seattle

Sarah Converse
Unit Leader and Associate Professor
US Geological Survey, Washington Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit
School of Environmental and Forest Sciences (SEFS) & School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences (SAFS)
University of Washington
Seattle, WA USA
sconver@uw.edu
<http://depts.washington.edu/qcons/>

I anticipate recruiting a PhD student to begin in autumn 2018 with a focus on quantitative population ecology of seabirds. The focus of the dissertation will be development and application of demographic estimation and modeling methods for seabird populations. Analytical methods may include count-based models, capture-recapture models, integrated population models, and others. The aim of the research will be development and application of methods needed to provide information that is relevant for conservation decision-making or ecological understanding of seabird populations. Specific applications are likely to include seabirds in Puget Sound, among others. There is space for the student to pursue their individual interests in concert with the advisor. The student will have opportunities to work closely with a variety of seabird scientists and managers, including potential for field work. The student will also be a part of the excellent community of graduate students, post-docs, and faculty in SAFS and in the wildlife science group in the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences at UW.

Competitive applicants will have an MS in wildlife biology, ecology, ornithology, biostatistics, or related fields. Experience analyzing population data is strongly preferred. Extensive experience with the R language is expected, and experience with Bayesian statistical methods is desirable. Criteria considered in assessing applicants will include research experience and publications, grades and other evidence of academic success, relevant coursework, GRE scores, and recommendations. While adequate funding is secure, the student will be expected to actively pursue outside funding.

For questions about the position, email sconver@uw.edu. Prospective applicants can learn more about the Converse lab group at <http://depts.washington.edu/qcons/> and the SAFS graduate program at <https://fish.uw.edu/students/about-graduate-program/>

Serious and competitive candidates must apply for admission to SAFS by the admission deadline of December 15. Learn more here: <https://fish.uw.edu/students/about-graduate-program/how-to-apply/> and here: <https://grad.uw.edu/admissions/apply-now/>

In addition, applicants should send their application materials directly to sconver@uw.edu by the admission deadline to indicate their interest in this position. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to make contact via email before applying, and as soon as possible, to discuss the opportunity.