

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Waterfowl Integrated Population Modeling

James C. Kennedy Waterfowl and Wetlands Conservation Center, Clemson University

STARTING DATE: Spring / Summer 2022

CLOSING DATE: Position is open until filled.

DESCRIPTION: The [James C. Kennedy Waterfowl and Wetlands Conservation Center](#) at Clemson University in partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited, and Nemours Wildlife Foundation is recruiting a highly motivated Post-Doctoral Scholar with an interest and background in integrated population modeling to explore the relative contribution of wintering areas to the life cycle of waterfowl populations in the Atlantic Flyway. We anticipate using a variety of data sources such as banding data from the USGS Bird Banding Lab, count data from the Waterfowl Breeding Population and Habitat Survey, and harvest data from wings in the models. We expect to use an integrated population model in two phases. Using the integrated population model framework will inform retrospective analyses (testing if non-breeding survival contributes to population growth rate historically) as well as predictive analyses (quantifying the change in population growth rate from changes to non-breeding survival and provide insights into the role of cross-seasonal effects from non-breeding to breeding. Moreover, we can describe how winter conditions affect non-breeding survival and population growth rates across a range of habitats and species (e.g., how does non-breeding survival of gadwall in the Atlantic Flyway affect the population growth rate of the continental population?). With additional information on how wintering areas affect the annual life cycle, we can also inform conservation prioritization in wintering areas such as the southeastern United States versus breeding locations in the northern US and Canada. The candidate will truly have the opportunity to contribute to the scientific literature and management of waterfowl populations.

The position is budgeted for 9 months, but possibilities exist to add time and expand modeling to other flyways or to tackle additional questions and issues related to waterfowl and wetland management.

We seek an outstanding scholar who is interested in quantitative ecology and modeling. The selected candidate will play the key role in publishing results of the research as the primary author. We will work closely with the selected candidate to provide ample professional development such as opportunities for training, conference attendance, career counseling, mentoring students, grant writing, publishing, and presenting.

QUALIFICATIONS: PhD. in Wildlife Ecology, Statistics, or related field. Strong quantitative skills are a must. Previous experience with integrated population modeling is highly desired. Ideal candidates are intellectually curious, possess a keen desire to publish high quality work, are

strong communicators, and are willing to work with and keep multiple partners informed of progress. We seek and encourage candidates from under-represented groups to apply.

SALARY: \$52,000/year plus benefits.

CONTACT: Student will be supervised by Dr. James T. Anderson (Clemson University), Dr. Beth Ross (US Fish and Wildlife Service), and Dr. Heath Hagy (US Fish and Wildlife Service). Preference is for the position to be housed at the [Belle W. Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science](#) in Georgetown, SC but options to work remotely exist for the right candidate. Interested individuals should apply by submitting a letter of interest, CV, unofficial copy of transcripts, examples of publications, and contact information for 3 references at [Careers \(clemsun.edu\)](#) (Job ID = 106398). Please direct questions to Dr. Anderson at jta6@clemsun.edu or (304) 276-8956.

James T. (Jim) Anderson, Ph.D. | CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

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