



a place of mind



The University of British Columbia  
Faculty of Forestry, Department of Forest Resource Management (FRM)

University of Victoria  
Department of Geography

**Developing Biodiversity Indicators from Earth Observation Data  
for British Columbia and Canada:  
Indicator Development, Representativeness and Conservation Approaches and  
Application to Avian Diversity**

The Integrated Remote Sensing Studio (IRSS) within UBC FRM, and the Spatial Pattern Analysis & Research (SPAR) Lab within UVic Geography are seeking three self motivated, and enthusiastic MSc and PhD students to undertake research into the application of Earth Observation data to the development of biodiversity indicators across British Columbia and Canada.

Three positions are available starting September 2010 or January 2011:

- 1) MSc UBC – Use of remotely sensed indicators of biodiversity to model birds across BC
- 2) PhD UBC - Determining conservation priorities for optimizing biodiversity preservation in BC
- 3) PhD UVic – Modelling BC and Boreal Biodiversity under different climate scenarios

The positions are in part supported the BC Innovation Council (BCIC). The students at UBC will be supervised by Prof. Nicholas Coops and the student at UVic will be supervised by Prof. Trisalyn Nelson. Successful student applications will be funded at NSERC levels (MSc 16,500 and PhD 19,000). Additional funds may be available through teaching and research assistantships.

**Eligible Candidates:**

Eligible candidates can be from North America or elsewhere, however, preference will be given to Canadian students preferably with NSERC post-graduate awards.

- For the MSc position, the student should have completed an undergraduate degree in ecology, forestry, geography or related field, and have a demonstrated interest in avian research, an understanding of remote sensing and spatial data analysis and basic experience in statistics and programming skills.
- The PhD Students should have a completed a MSc and must have a background in either biology, forestry or geography. The applicants requires expertise in a combination of: remote sensing, spatial analysis, GIS, MARXAN, wildlife research, and conservation planning. Skills in programming and statistics are beneficial.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, CV, a copy of academic transcripts and the names/contact information for three references by email. Review of applications will begin on July 15<sup>th</sup> 2010 and will continue until the position is filled.

For more information please contact Nicholas Coops or Trisalyn Nelson (email preferred):

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