**MANRRS**

# USDA Forest Service (USFS) Resource Assistant Program Internship
## 2023 Winter Cohort

**Position.**   **Research Assistant in Wildlife Health and Urban Forest Science**

**Duration.**   6 -12 months internship: Starting February 2023

**Location.**   This position can be virtual or based in the USFS Washington, DC office.

**Reports To:**  The Research Assistant in Wildlife Health and Urban Forest Science will report to two USFS Washington Office Research and Development (USFS WO R&D) National Program Leaders (NPLs) for Fish & Wildlife Health and Welfare, and for Urban Sustainability serving on the Landscape Restoration and Ecosystem Services Research (LRESR) staff.

**Job Overview:**
The Research Assistant in Wildlife Health and Urban Forest Science will work closely with the 2 R&D NPLs and other Forest Service colleagues in the Wildlife Research Program and in the Urban Sustainability communities of science and practice.  Responsibilities will include providing educational and technical support for science delivery in animal health and welfare topics and in urban sustainability.  This cross-disciplinary position will have opportunities to work across the Forest Service and with agency partners to identify the research, technical data, and expertise in the agency to inform wildlife health and welfare concerns particularly germane to landscape and urban habitat management decisions.

This position also will contribute science support to the development of various education/outreach tools and public engagement strategies to be used in wildlife health and welfare, and urban forest management, including related to environmental justice. This position will engage in meetings related to the Animal Health/Welfare and "One Health" communities, Urban Sustainability Research, science delivery teams, and others as interest and expertise allow.  This position also may assist in planning and hosting meetings and webinars for Forest Service wildlife biologists, ecologists, social scientists, and ecologists.

**Responsibilities and Duties**
- Engage and provide support to teams developing data, tools, and training opportunities in wildlife health and urban ecology.
- Engage with the Forest Service Urban Sustainability Research and i-Tree software user community to identify how best to support ongoing and future data collection efforts, especially those relevant to equity and environmental justice.
- Engage in regular meetings relevant to these efforts, including the Urban Sustainability Research and Technology and Science Delivery communities, Urban Field Stations, and others.
- Assist in developing training webinars and web content on wildlife health and welfare topics and planning a national meeting for Technology and Science Delivery community.

**Qualifications**
- Bachelor's or Master's degree in animal behavior, wildlife biology, wildlife ecology, environmental sciences, natural resources, social science, or related field.
- Experience or coursework in wildlife, animal welfare or public policy and communications.
- The position requires interpersonal skills, ability to work in small groups with strong listening skills, and the ability to collaborate effectively with diverse groups of people.
- Candidates must have strong written and oral communication skills to read, synthesize, and interpret research publications.
- The candidate must have strong organization skills, an ability to work independently, and an interest in learning about and supporting the Forest Service Wildlife Health, Animal Welfare and Urban Sustainability communities.
- Candidates should be prepared to discuss how they have demonstrated these skills.

**Minimum Requirements**
- Bachelor's degree at an accredited university; Master's degree completed or in process is preferable.
- US citizenship or permanent residency. RAs must undergo a government background check if selected.
- Participation in US Forest Service Orientation Training scheduled for February 2023