



Dear Colleagues and Perspective Graduate Students:

The Recreation, Park and Tourism Management Department at Pennsylvania State University is seeking Graduate Student applicants (both Master's and PhD) for acceptance and assistantship consideration beginning in the fall 2022 semester. The deadline for applications is rolling, but priority will be given to applicants that have applied no later than December 10th, 2021. Our highly ranked and historied program offers competitive assistantship and fellowship opportunities, facilitated through our esteemed graduate faculty (<https://hhd.psu.edu/rptm/graduate/faculty-and-research>). While we encourage perspective students to reach out to all of our graduate faculty to inquire about research alignment, the following faculty are seeking students with specific research interest and experience in these areas:

Dr. Pan (<https://hhd.psu.edu/contact/bing-pan>) seeks a PhD/MS student interested in data analytics in national parks/tourism. Prior skills in a programming language such as R/Python and/or GIS are preferred, while an interest in machine learning/artificial intelligence is a plus. The student is encouraged to pursue a minor in Social Data Analytics while pursuing the major degree in Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management.

Dr. Mowen (<https://hhd.psu.edu/contact/andrew-mowen>) seeks graduate students who are interested in park, recreation and conservation finance, economic, and advocacy research for local, state, and federal agencies as well as non-profit organizations.

Dr. Newman (<https://hhd.psu.edu/contact/peter-newman>) seeks a graduate student interested in coupled human-natural systems, and parks and protected areas management. The selected student will likely engage in laboratory and field-based research focused on natural soundscapes and dark night skies in protected areas.

Dr. Sabuhoro (<https://hhd.psu.edu/contact/edwin-sabuhoro>) seeks a student interested in integrated conservation and development in Sub-Saharan Africa. This opportunity will focus on the following research topics and specific locations:

- The socio-economic determinants of human-wildlife conflicts and suggestions for future coexistence scenarios, models, and tools that will ensure sustainable human-wildlife coexistence; Impacts of Nature-based Tourism on community livelihoods, well-being, and the conservation of parks and protected areas; Community-based tourism initiatives/enterprises and how they impact the indigenous population, parks, and protected areas.

Locations of Interest Could Include:

- Uganda, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo: Mountain Gorilla's Bwindi-Virunga Ecosystem (Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Mgahinga Gorilla National Park, Volcanoes National Park, and Virunga National Park); Kenya: Rift Valley Ecosystem (Tsavo, Amboseli, Chyulu) AND Laikipia-Samburu Ecosystem (Laikipia-Samburu, Mt. Kenya, Aberdare); Tanzania: Selous-Niassa Ecosystem: (Selous, Mikumi, & Niassa), AND Western Tanzania Ecosystem: (Moyowosi-Kigosi, Ugalla, Katavi-Rukwa, & Ruaha-Rungwa); Botswana: Okavango Delta Ecosystem (Moremiu Game Reserve & Chobe National Park).

Please email Derrick Taff with questions at Bdt3@psu.edu.

Sincerely,

B. Derrick Taff

Associate Professor, Professor in Charge of Graduate Studies, RPTM, Penn State University