16 September 2022

EcoHealth Alliance

520 Eighth Avenue, Ste. 1200

New York, NY 10018

To whom it may concern,

Please accept this cover letter and attached CV as an indication of my interest in the Quantitative Ecology Research Scientist position. I plan to defend my PhD dissertation on applications of Bayesian hierarchical models at the end of 2022 and will be able to start a full-time position in early 2023. While reviewing the job description and duties, I was pleased to see the emphasis on applying ecological modeling to disease monitoring and management. My career goal is to eventually become a professor at an R1 university and lead a research lab focusing on wildlife disease modeling and parasitology, and this position would allow me to continue building my quantitative skills and meaningful connections in the non-academic world.

My graduate education at the University of Vermont has provided me with the skills necessary to be successful in this position. I have extensive experience in ecological modeling, particularly using non-frequentist methods such as Bayesian occupancy models and spatially explicit agent-based models. I am particularly proud of my involvement in two different projects, one involving modeling coffee leaf rust transmission at the landscape scale and the other evaluating the efficacy of the USDA’s strategies for managing rabies in urban areas. In both collaborations, I brought my quantitative skill set to a diverse team of scientists, and members of the team applied their unique perspectives to address real-world problems. I was the lead author or lead co-author on both of these projects, allowing me to build my skills in project management and interpersonal skills, including written and verbal communication. The rigors of my research and PhD program has required me to be highly adaptive, and many of my quantitative skills have been self-taught.

I am eager to work with and learn from my fellow disease ecologist colleagues at the EcoHealth Alliance. If you have any questions, I can be reached primarily via email ([beasley.em@gmail.com](mailto:beasley.em@gmail.com)) or by phone (816-582-9047).



Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Emily M. Beasley

beasley.em@gmail.com

PhD Candidate

Vertebrate Collections Manager, Zadock Thompson Natural History Collections

Department of Biology

University of Vermont