



The University of Montana (UM) invites applications for a **two-year Postdoctoral Research Associate** in the Ecology and Evolution program of the Department of Biological Sciences.

The researcher will work with Drs. Jedediah Brodie, Dean Pearson, and T.J. Clark-Wolf to develop multi-trophic, multi-interaction type **community models to address critical questions in ecology and conservation**. This research will help develop a type of semi-qualitative community model, known as fuzzy interaction webs, to understand the impact of perturbations (like management or species introductions) to non-target species within a community (see Clark-Wolf et al. (2022), J. App. Ecol. and Pearson & Clark-Wolf (2023) Ecol.). The candidate will help shape the exact projects to be conducted, but these could include community modeling of existing datasets on multiple trophic levels from ecosystems in Borneo and Montana. For example, in our system in Borneo there are ongoing effects of climate change, biodiversity loss, and habitat disturbance that could alter the community in ways that are currently difficult to predict. In addition, the candidate could help develop fuzzy interaction web modeling techniques, including extending these tools using Bayesian modeling, meta-analytic techniques, and more. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in community ecology and quantitative modeling with the ability to learn and apply fuzzy set theory and Bayesian models. The starting time for the position is flexible but would ideally be between September and December 2023

The University of Montana is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer and has a strong institutional commitment to the principle of diversity in all areas. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of qualified people who would assist the University in demonstrating its five [priorities for action](#): Place student success at the center of all we do; drive excellence and innovation in teaching, learning, and research; embody the principle of “mission first, people always”; partner with place; and proudly tell the UM story.

Position Details

- Position is full-time, 1.0 FTE, Letter of Appointment renewable for up to two (2) years and includes a comprehensive and competitive [benefits package](#) including Insurance package, mandatory retirement plan, partial tuition waiver, and wellness program.
- Salary for this position is \$60,000.

Required Qualifications

- Candidates must have a PhD in ecology or related field, a track record in publishing, and a strong enthusiasm for ecology.
- The capacity to manipulate large, complex datasets will be critical.

Preferred Qualifications

- Expertise with Bayesian modeling and/or Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping.

About [UM](#) and the Division of Biological Sciences

The University of Montana is a flagship, research-intensive R1 institution, with approximately 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students. It is located in Missoula, a culturally vibrant community of about 75,000, surrounded by mountains where three rivers converge. Abundant recreational opportunities in

surrounding state and national forests and nearby Glacier National Park and Yellowstone National Park complement a thriving intellectual atmosphere.

The Division of Biological Sciences at The University of Montana-Missoula delivers high-quality academic programs in the biological sciences. The division's mission includes educating students at all levels from the baccalaureate to the doctoral, so that they develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to succeed as professional biologists and as citizens in a rapidly changing world facing problems that include significant biological components; to foster strong research programs that create new knowledge, understanding, and approaches in biology and that enhance the learning environment for students; and to apply biological science to benefit the university, state, region, nation and the world.

To learn more about the University of Montana, and Missoula, please visit the links below.

- [University of Montana](#)
 - Video: [Mission First, People Always](#)
 - [UM on YouTube](#)
- [City of Missoula](#)
 - Video: [There's This Place](#)
 - [Destination Missoula](#)
 - [Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

Criminal Background Investigation is required prior to Offer of Employment. In accordance with University policy, finalists for this position will be subject to criminal background investigations. **ADA/EOE/AA/Veteran's Preference.** Reasonable accommodations are provided in the hiring process for persons with disabilities. For example, this material is available in alternative format upon request. As an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, we encourage applications from minorities, veterans, and women. Qualified candidates may request veterans' or disabilities preference in accordance with state law. **References** *References not listed on the application materials may be contacted; notice may be provided to the applicant. **Testing** Individual hiring departments at UM may elect to administer pre-employment tests, which are relevant to essential job functions. **Employment Eligibility.** All New Employees must be eligible and show employment eligibility verification by the first date of employment at UM, as legally required (e.g., Form I-9). Must be eligible to work in the United State upon hire.

How to Apply

Priority Application Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 by 11:59 PM (Mountain Time)

Complete applications received by this date will be guaranteed consideration. To receive full consideration, candidates are required to submit all of the following materials.

Please submit the following application materials** via the **UM Jobs portal** and by clicking "New Resume/CV" button. Please do not apply through Indeed.com*.

- **Letter of Interest** – addressing the stated required skills for the position (1-2 pages)
- **Detailed resume** listing education and describing work experience
- **Three (3) professional references** - Names and contact information

It is also strongly recommended to send these materials (consolidated into a single PDF) via email to jedediah.brodie@umontana.edu with the subject line "Postdoc application"

*Applying through Indeed.com or easy apply through Indeed.com may result in submission of an incomplete application. Applications may be removed from full consideration if they are not complete with materials listed above under the "How to Apply" section. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure complete application materials are submitted and received by the date listed above.

**Please note: only five (5) attachments are allowed per application. Please combine documents accordingly.

