Title: PH.D. GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP (or outstanding M.S.) researching ATLANTIC BRANT and SNOW GOOSE breeding interactions on Southampton Island, Canada.

Agency: University of Delaware Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology

Website: http://ag.udel.edu/enwc/faculty/cwilliams.html

Job Description: 3 years of funding is available at the University of Delaware’s Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology to research competitive interaction between Atlantic brant, lesser snow geese, and cackling geese on Southampton Island, Canada. I would prefer a PhD student who has experience with waterfowl in Canada and the Arctic. However, I will consider converting this project to a Masters degree if the applicant shows extreme qualification and experience in this arena. Brant populations have experienced long-term fluctuations but may have declined by more than a third in the last decade. One possible limitation in brant breeding success may be due to increasing interspecific competition amongst increasing populations of lesser snow geese and cackling geese breeding in the Foxe Basin. Four types of direct and indirect competition on Atlantic brant could be occurring including exploitative competition, interference competition, pre-emptive competition, and apparent competition. Identifying if any or all forms of competition may be occurring between lesser snow geese, cackling geese, and Atlantic brant, will be critical to determine in Atlantic brant are in danger of having increasingly lower reproductive success as snow geese and cackling geese populations increase. We propose to use careful monitoring of behaviors, time budgets, and reproductive success amongst lesser snow geese, cackling geese, and Atlantic brant at East Bay, Southampton Island, during the 2014–2015 breeding seasons. Start date is listed as January 1, 2014 but earlier start date is possible.

Location: Southampton Island, Canada and Newark, Delaware

Salary: ~$21,000 plus benefits and tuition remission.

Qualifications: Qualified applicants should have 1) a M.S. in Zoology or Wildlife Ecology (or B.S. if highly qualified M.S. applicant), 2) a record of field experiences, research, and publications in waterfowl ecology, 3) ability to conduct a summer field season successfully and safely in remote tundra conditions with limited base camp and polar bears, 4) be able to manage technicians in aforementioned environment, and 5) minimum GPA of 3.0 and GRE of 1000/150 (old/new). Interested individuals should send a cover letter outlining experience and research interests, curriculum vitae, unofficial copies of university transcripts and GRE scores, and contact information for three references to Dr. Chris Williams, Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, 253 Townsend Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716 (PH: 302-831-4592, Email: cwillia@udel.edu). Applications by email (with electronic copies of requested documents) are preferred.

Christopher K. Williams, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Wildlife Ecology
Associate Professor of Energy and Environmental Policy University of Delaware
253 Townsend Hall, Newark, DE 19716
PH:302-831-4592
Website: http://ag.udel.edu/enwc/faculty/cwilliams.html
Wildlife Policy Program: http://sites.udel.edu/wildlifepolicy/