

Postdoctoral/PhD/MSc and/or Contract Research Positions: *Application of Inuit knowledge to the identification of Peary caribou critical habitat and recovery strategy*

Project description and objectives: The project will combine satellite technologies, state of the art snow instrumentation and novel statistical techniques to highlight the value of Indigenous Knowledge to conservation. Inuit/Inuvialuit Knowledge shared in workshops and interviews that describe historical and seasonal changes in species' distributions, habitat preferences, and relative changes in species' abundances over time will drive the habitat and population modelling. Local perspectives on the impacts of the climate-induced changes on community well-being will be discussed and documented. Outputs from the population model will be used to test the efficacy of different habitat conservation strategies to Peary caribou persistence under various climate change scenarios, and quantify the co-benefits of habitat protection for Peary caribou and other Indigenous values (e.g. food, medicine, culture, heritage). The ultimate goal is to help the federal and territorial governments meet their legal obligations under their respective Species at Risk Acts by generating knowledge to inform policy on the protection of habitat deemed critical for the survival and recovery of Peary caribou (*Rangifer tarandus pearyi*).

The candidate will be involved in the Indigenous Knowledge aspect of the project and help with coordination of workshops, methodology design, data transcription and analysis and writing of manuscripts.

Supervision and partners: This is a collaborative project led by Dr. Cheryl-A. Johnson (Environment and Climate Change Canada), Dr. Alexandre Langlois (Université de Sherbrooke), Dr. George Arhonditsis (University of Toronto), and Dr. Murray Humphries (McGill University). The partnership includes 10 Inuit/Inuvialuit communities, 4 Universities, several federal and territorial agencies, and the Wildlife Management Advisory Council-NWT and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. This component of the research will be supervised by Murray Humphries at Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment, Macdonald Campus, McGill University in Montreal Quebec.

Positions available: Opportunities for paid postdoctoral, graduate, internship projects as well as contractual services.

Skills and Experience: Candidates must be knowledgeable about wildlife biology and environmental science, have excellent communication skills, and be effective at communicating with and learning from diverse partners and knowledge holders. Experience with participatory research and community engagement in northern Canada, particularly within Inuit Nunangat, is a key asset. Priority will be given to Indigenous applicants and candidates from or living in northern Canada.

Timeline and funding: Positions can start as soon as possible and are fundable for 1-4 years (depending on the position applied for).

Workplace: Location is flexible, but travel to northern communities will be required.

Please send a cover letter, CV, and contact information for two references to Catherine Geoffroy at catherine.c.geoffroy@gmail.com.