Internship 1 – Endangered Species Act & Aquatic Species Management

Contact: Lydia Olander, Director of the Ecosystem Services Program

Recently two petitions were submitted to the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for hundreds of new species to be listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). One of these petitions lists 404 primarily aquatic species in the Southeastern United States.

We are interested in exploring the applications of the ESA and related programs to aquatic species and asking questions about what management and program structures have been attempted or could be used to manage aquatic species as well as what we have learned from past attempts.

Internship work may include: 1) reviewing comments to FWS regarding prelisting voluntary conservation measures; 2) reviewing literature on ESA and prelisting outcomes regarding effectiveness; 3) reviewing records on existing programs and structures such as habitat conservation plans and candidate conservation agreements; 4) exploring interaction between water quality, quantity and ESA; and 5) reviewing recovery plans that address water quality, quantity and ESA interactions.

This position will likely work as part of a small team across Nicholas Institute programs. We would prefer students who have some policy or legal experience, are focused in this area, or have knowledge of the Endangered Species Act or water quality issues.

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to Lydia.oolander@duke.edu by August 28.