

# WE ARE

## Internship and/or bachelor's thesis opportunity

# HIRING!

## 5-6 months Spring 2022

### Experiment on the flight response of wild boar at risk in the Bavarian Forest National Park, Germany

We are looking for a motivated and competent intern or bachelor's student in ecology with an interest in wildlife and monitoring work for **5-6 months** starting **spring 2022** (to be defined with the candidate). The internship (3 months) offers the opportunity to do a bachelor thesis subsequently (3 months). The deadline for the application is **March 31<sup>st</sup> 2022**.

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The aim of this project is to assess when wild boar perceive a risk and when they respond to it (i.e. escape). Since human-induced stimuli are often analogous to predation risk for wildlife (Frid and Dill 2002), measuring escape behavior by experimentally approaching animals on foot offers a simple and reliable way to measure individual tolerance to perceived predation risk (Tarlow and Blumstein 2007). We are currently tracking wild boar in the Bavarian Forest National Park with GPS collars, so that they can be located using VHF antennas. The experiment consists of approaching wild boar on foot and identifying the time when the animal flees in order to measure the distance between the initial position of the animal and the observer, the so-called 'flight distance'. The candidate will be in charge of the experiments and data collection as well as conducting a bibliographic research; compiling the collected data into tables; analyzing the data with the R programming languages; and writing a short report presenting the study and its results. The candidate will have the opportunity to assist with field-related activities in the Bavarian Forest National Park.

#### COMPENSATION

Free accommodation in the Bavarian Forest National Park is covered for the length of the placement (approximately 6 months, but dates may be flexible). Interns can also receive a small contribution per month (ca. 260€) for 3 months.



#### CANDIDATE PROFILE

A bachelor student (or a student on a gap year). A driving license and a personal vehicle are required for experiments in the park. Travel costs for field work will be reimbursed.

Good written and spoken English is necessary. French and/or German appreciated.

The candidate must be willing to work in the field for long hours (e.g. wild boar research) and under sometimes-difficult conditions. The candidate may also be required to shift his/her working hours (e.g., early morning, depending on boar activity periods).

#### HOW TO APPLY

Please send a one-page Curriculum Vitae and a short letter of motivation to Dr. Elodie Wielgus ([elodie.wielgus@npv-bw.bayern.de](mailto:elodie.wielgus@npv-bw.bayern.de)) with the subject line "Application Wild boar". The best start date is May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022. The deadline for this application is **March 31<sup>st</sup> 2022**. Applications from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Please contact the address above for further information.