

Available MSc position (January or May 2024 start)

Spatial cognition in free-ranging urbanized gulls

Project

The selected candidate will measure spatial cognition and problem solving ability in a captive setting in wild caught ring-billed gulls. Cognitive performance will be examined in the context of:

- a) fine scale free-ranging movements using state of the art GPS tracking technology
- b) environmental contaminant exposure

Key points

- MSc-level stipend provided for 2 years
- Cognitive testing in a captive setting (primary focus) and fieldwork (secondary)
- The student will have the opportunity to conduct collaborative work with professors **Mélanie Guigueno** (McGill U.), **Jonathan Verreault** (U. du Québec à Montréal), and **David Wilson** (Memorial U. of Newfoundland).
- **Intensive field seasons** (two expected) involving long hours every day for several weeks. Long hours will be compensated with extra vacation time after each field season.

Requirements

- BSc in biology, biochemistry or a related discipline
- Driver's licence (minimum Class 5)

Assets

- Research experience involving animals
- Knowledge in spatial ecology (e.g., telemetry, ArcGIS) and ecotoxicology
- Wet lab skills (e.g., pipetting, immunocytochemistry, stereology)

We highly encourage applications from Indigenous peoples, visible minorities, women, people with disabilities, people of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, and first-generation students.

Interested candidates, please send your cover letter, CV, and all transcripts by **Nov 6, 2023 (Jan start) or **Dec 4, 2023 (May start)** to:**

Prof. Mélanie Guigueno

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