



MSc Position

WILDLIFE IN BEAVER-MODIFIED ARCTIC ECOSYSTEMS

Starting September 2026

Opportunity

The Beaver Ecohydrology Lab at the University of Saskatchewan is seeking a motivated MSc student to study how wildlife are using the new habitats created as beavers expand northward into Arctic ecosystems.

In the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR), community members have reported substantial increases in beaver activity over the past 10-20 years. Because beavers strongly modify hydrology and landscapes, their expansion has the potential to transform Arctic ecosystems and alter habitat conditions for other species. This MSc project will investigate how mammalian wildlife communities change with increasing beaver occupancy using wildlife camera networks. The research will contribute to understanding ecosystem-level impacts of beaver range expansion and the implications for northern ecosystems and communities.



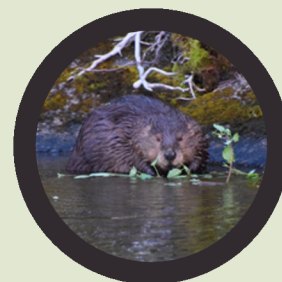
How to Apply

Preference will be given to students from northern communities. Prospective students should send: 1) a brief statement of their interest in the research topic, 2) their CV, and 3) a copy of their unofficial undergraduate transcript in a single pdf file to cherie.westbrook@usask.ca with the subject line: *MSc Application - Arctic Beaver Wildlife Project*.



Thesis Supervision

The student will work collaboratively with the scientific team, Imaryuk Monitors and community partners in the ISR as part of a knowledge co-production approach. The successful student will join the Department of Geography & Planning at the University of Saskatchewan. The supervisory team includes Drs. Cherie Westbrook (University of Saskatchewan), Glynnis Hood (University of Alberta, Augustana), and Jordan Musetta-Lambert (Environment and Climate Change Canada). Fieldwork will be conducted near the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway.



www.cheriewestbrook.ca



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