



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
Rangeland, Wildlife  
& Fisheries Management

**MS Research Assistantship:**

Economic assessment of losses to bird predation on Texas aquaculture farms

**Location:** College Station, TX

**Job Description:** A MS graduate research assistantship is available in the Department of Rangeland, Wildlife, and Fisheries Management at Texas A&M University to examine the distribution, abundance, and foraging patterns of fish-eating birds on aquaculture farms in the Matagorda Bay area of Texas. The graduate student will conduct surveys of fish-eating birds on farms through the area. Birds will be salvaged from control programs and under farmers depredation permits for diet analyses and bioenergetics modeling. This project will require significant overnight travel to conduct field research and work under adverse (cold, night, rainy etc.) weather conditions. This project is a cooperative effort among the Texas A&M University's Department of Rangeland, Wildlife, and Fisheries Management, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, and the USDA National Wildlife Research Center-Mississippi Field Station.

**Qualifications:** B.S. in wildlife, fisheries, biology, or closely related natural resource field. A strong work ethic, good verbal and written communication skills, statistical coursework and experience with analytical software such as R, ability to work independently and as a productive member of a research team is required. The student must be comfortable with conducting bird necropsies. Applicants must have a minimum of 3.0 GPA and competitive GRE scores (e.g., >150 on Verbal and Quantitative). Expected start date is August 1, 2023.

**Application:** Submit by **June 15, 2023 in a single pdf document** a 1) cover letter stating your interests and career goals, 2) transcript(s) and GRE scores (unofficial copies are fine), 3) resume/CV, and 4) full contact information for 3 references to Dr. John M. Tomeček, Ph.D. at [tomecek@tamu.edu](mailto:tomecek@tamu.edu).

John M. Tomeček, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor and Extension Wildlife Specialist  
Department of Rangeland, Wildlife, and Fisheries Management  
Texas A&M University

**Starting Date:** August 1, 2023

**Performance Period:** 24 Months

**Salary:** \$30,000/year with a generous benefits package, including health insurance.