Adaptive wildlife management in the Netherlands

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Project description

The Netherlands experiences a major wildlife comeback. Several ungulate species, are recolonizing or strongly increasing in numbers, while others, such as the European bison, semi-domestic grazers or beaver have been (re)introduced. In the Netherlands, high numbers of wildlife live in extremely urbanized and densely populated environments and humans-wildlife interactions are increasing. Wildlife management in the Netherlands is currently undergoing a transition from managing the scarcity to managing the impacts of wildlife and human-wildlife interactions. Traditionally wildlife management has had a strong focus on managing the numbers of wildlife, however, impacts of wildlife are more often related to human and animal behavior. Thus, to facilitate the wildlife comeback in the Netherlands our project WildlifeNL explores the opportunities for more adaptive wildlife management based on managing human-wildlife behavioral interactions.

In the Netherlands several governmental and non-governmental organizations have already conducted research on different types of adaptive management. In this assistantship you will review the existing data and literature available on adaptive wildlife management of different species in the Netherlands. You will work closely together with some of the stakeholders involved in WildlifeNL (e.g. BIJ12) to obtain the data and results from previous research. You will synthesize your results for the WildlifeNL consortium.

The Bright Minds Assistantship will be part of the research project WildlifeNL. You will be embedded in the Early Career Research Group of MSc-students, PhD-students, and Post-docs of WildlifeNL to discuss topics and research related to human-wildlife interactions. For more information about the project, please visit: www.wildlifenl.nl

Job requirements

No specific skills are required. We are looking for an enthusiastic student that has affinity with nature conservation, wildlife, and/or human-wildlife interactions. The student should be willing to engage with several of the stakeholders involved in WildlifeNL to obtain data for the review.