SLU

Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Department of Animal Nutrition and Managemement

Master's thesis project

"Exploring the connection between human land use, reindeer, bears, and lichens"

A M.Sc. thesis project is available at the Reindeer Husbandry Unit, Uppsala, Sweden. The project length is flexible, depending on the student's curriculum, but the project should start during fall 2019 or at the latest in spring 2020. A traineeship period in our research group is desirable. To that regard, we are available to support the student in applying for an Erasmus+ scholarship or similar.

Our larger project aims to assess to what extent bear predation and anthropogenic activities affect reindeer movement and habitat selection, and the consequent effect on ground lichens. Lichens are an essential food source for reindeer in winter, while brown bears predate reindeer calves in May. In this context, several thesis topics are available. Field data on lichen conditions in the study area were collected in 2016 and 2017. Data from GPS collars are available for both reindeer and bears for the years 2010-2015. Since GPS data are the core of the study, **previous knowledge of GIS and R is a requirement**.

For further information, please contact **Dr. Alessia Uboni**, at **alessia.uboni@slu.se**. To apply, please include a copy of your CV and university transcripts, and information on your experience with GIS and R.

Deadline for application: September 30, 2019