The Moore lab at the University of Colorado Denver is searching for 1 Ph.D. student to study the elevational limits of dragonflies in Colorado (http://moore-evo-eco.weebly.com). This position is fully funded by the National Science Foundation, including 4+ years of support as a graduate research assistant and a tuition waiver. Ideally, the successful applicant would start in Summer 2026.

The project will test if low oxygen prevents species from dispersing to higher elevations in response to global change (https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=2532582). The successful applicant will be responsible for 1) surveying the current elevational limits of dragonflies in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado and 2) testing if a species' tolerance to heat, cold, and low oxygen predicts how far upslope it has moved in the last 20 years. This project will entail both field and lab research.

The successful applicant will need to hike to and conduct field research at high-elevation wetlands in the Rocky Mountains. Much of the field work for this project will take place in remote and rugged wilderness areas across Colorado. As such, a love of the outdoors and prior backcountry experience is strongly preferred.

Minimum qualifications include all of the following:

1. Meeting admissions criteria to CU Denver's Integrative & Systems Biology PhD program (https://clas.ucdenver.edu/integrative-biology/graduate-programs-department-integrative-biology#admission_requirements-346)
2. Comfort in remote wilderness areas

Preferred qualifications include ANY of the following:

1. MS in Biology, Ecology, Aquatic Ecology, Wildlife Biology, or equivalent
2. Experience with eco-physiological topics and techniques
3. Experience with the R statistical environment
4. Eligibility for in-state tuition through the WICHE program (https://www.wiche.edu/our-region/)

If you are interested, please email the following materials to Michael Moore (michael.p.moore@ucdenver.edu) by November 1st, 2025: 1) a 1-2 page cover letter detailing your interest in the position and relevant experience/qualifications; 2) your CV; and 3) contact information for at least 2 references. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and top applicants will be interviewed and encouraged to apply to CU Denver's Integrative Biology graduate program.