



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

*Achieving International Excellence*

**RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (REF: 3093)**  
**SCHOOL OF PLANT BIOLOGY**

**Modelling Eucalypt Decline**

- 3 year appointment with further employment subject to funding
- Salary range: Level A \$53,542 - \$72,537 p.a. - minimum starting salary for appointee with PhD will be \$70,058 p.a.
- Plus 17% superannuation
- Closing date: Friday, 16 April 2010

An appointment is available for a post-doctoral Research Associate with computational modelling skills and an interest in ecology/eco-physiology. The project is coordinated by the Centre of Excellence for Climate Change, Woodland and Forest Health, based at The University of Western Australia, and involves collaboration with Murdoch University and other associated institutions. As the successful applicant, you will work with computational modellers, ecologists, pathologists and social scientists to construct models for simulating important eco-physiological processes affecting trees in woodlands and forests. The model will be used to understand and predict the effects and interactions of possible causes for declines in tree health, such as changing climate, plant pathogens and insects. You will be involved with the conceptual design of the model and you will be responsible for its implementation and its validation and testing using data collected by other project participants. You will also assist in the writing of refereed journal publications. To accomplish this, you will have a strong background in a quantitative science, such as mathematics or computer science and a background or interest in biology, ecology and/or conservation issues. Applicants must have a PhD or equivalent in a relevant field. Some assistance with relocation expenses (if applicable) may be negotiated.

**For further information regarding the position, or to obtain a copy of the Centre's Research Strategy, please contact** Dr Michael Renton on (08) 6488 1959 or email [michael.renton@uwa.edu.au](mailto:michael.renton@uwa.edu.au)

**APPLICATION DETAILS:** The position description follows. Written applications quoting the reference number, personal contact details, qualifications and experience, along with contact details of three referees should be sent to Director, Human Resources, The University of Western Australia, M350, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley WA 6009 or emailed to [jobs@uwa.edu.au](mailto:jobs@uwa.edu.au) by the closing date.

*Committed to a workplace culture of respect*

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**POSITION IDENTIFICATION**

<b>Faculty:</b>	<b>FNAS</b>
<b>School/Admin Department:</b>	<b>Plant Biology</b>
<b>Centre:</b>	
<b>Section:</b>	
<b>Position Number:</b>	<b>309262</b>
<b>Position Title:</b>	<b>Research Associate</b>
<b>Position Classification:</b>	<b>Level A</b>
<b>Supervisor Title:</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
<b>Supervisor Position Number:</b>	<b>306110</b>

**ROLE STATEMENT**

The appointee is expected to conduct research on a Centre of Excellence for Climate Change, Woodland & Forest Health funded research project on understanding and predicting the effects of climate change on forest and woodland health.

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Assist in the design of a model for simulating the important eco-physiological processes affecting trees in woodlands and forests
2. Implement the model as designed
3. Process and analyse data collected by other project participants and compare to model predictions for the purpose of model validation
4. Use the model to identify key interactions and make predictions for various climate change scenarios and possible management options
5. Publish in refereed journals
6. Other duties as directed

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<b>Supervisor Title:</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
<b>Supervisor Position Number:</b>	<b>306110</b>

**SPECIFIC WORK CAPABILITIES (SELECTION CRITERIA): (Minimum requirements to perform the duties of the position, e.g. PhD).**

<p>PhD or equivalent in a field relevant to plant biology, mathematics, or computer science.</p> <p>Skills in applied mathematics and/ or computational simulation modelling.</p> <p>Skills in computer programming.</p> <p>Interest in biology, ecology and conservation issues.</p> <p>Willingness and ability to share results with the scientific community through publication.</p> <p>Highly developed written and oral communication skills.</p> <p>Skills in statistical analysis and/ or model validation.</p> <p>Highly developed ability to work collaboratively with scientists, team members and industry partners.</p> <p>Demonstrable ability to write scientific papers and project reports, and present research findings to non-scientists.</p> <p>Ability to work safely and with a well developed understanding of safety procedures.</p> <p>Strong motivation and interest in developing new skills and knowledge.</p>
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Positions directly supervised: 0
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Number of positions for which responsible: 0
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**PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT WITH YOUR APPLICATION.**

**PRIVACY AUTHORISATION**

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorise The University of Western Australia to contact the referees nominated by me below for the purpose of confirming my employment history, work skills and abilities and other information to assist in the assessment of my application for employment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Nominated Referees

Referee Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The University of Western Australia will treat all information obtained in a strictly confidential manner and will not release any information to any other party unless authorisation to do so has been obtained from the applicant.

## HOW DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT THE VACANT POSITION?

Please indicate how you heard about the position (tick one)

Source	Code
<input type="checkbox"/> Word of mouth from UWA staff	13
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional network ( <i>please specify</i> )	14
<input type="checkbox"/> Web – jobs.uwa.edu.au	10
<input type="checkbox"/> Web – seek.com.au	15
<input type="checkbox"/> Web – UniJobs.com.au	11
<input type="checkbox"/> Web – professional careers site ( <i>please specify</i> )	16
<input type="checkbox"/> Web – other Please specify	20
<input type="checkbox"/> Print – West Australian Newspaper	01
<input type="checkbox"/> Print – A WA Community Newspaper	17
<input type="checkbox"/> Print – Other WA newspaper/newsletter ( <i>please specify</i> )	09
<input type="checkbox"/> Print – The Australian Newspaper	02
<input type="checkbox"/> Print – Other national newspaper ( <i>please specify</i> )	08
<input type="checkbox"/> Print – International newspaper ( <i>please specify</i> )	07
<input type="checkbox"/> Print – Journal ( <i>please specify</i> )	18
<input type="checkbox"/> Recruitment Agency ( <i>please specify</i> )	12
<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify	19