



Centre of Excellence for Climate Change
Woodland & Forest Health

Centre for Climate Change, Woodland and Forest Health Murdoch University (Perth, Western Australia)

Postdoctoral Research Position (Fauna ecology)

- 35 months fixed-term appointment
- \$69k-\$78k including employer superannuation contributions and an opportunity to salary package

We seek a postdoctoral researcher with a fauna ecological background to work on the 'Restoring Biodiversity Values' research program of this Western Australian Government-funded State Centre of Excellence.

The State Centre of Excellence for Climate Change, Woodland and Forest Health is a coordinated approach between Murdoch University, The University of Western Australia and a number of government agency and industry partners to research the complex processes involved in woodland and forest declines and putting into place strategies that will mitigate the declines. The Postdoctoral Researcher will be based at Murdoch University and will be primarily involved with the fauna and forest/woodland health program of the Centre.

Appropriate disciplinary backgrounds for the current post could include (but would not be limited to) zoology, wildlife ecology, ecological modelling, forestry, or biology. Experience with (and the ability to undertake) field-based research would be viewed favourably. Some background or interest in environmental restoration would also be of benefit. The suitable candidate will have experience in research project management, and should have a demonstrated track record of publication in academic journals in their field of expertise, as well as excellent oral and written communication skills.

The successful candidate will coordinate and carry out field work assessing ecosystem processes operating in various Eucalypt forests/woodlands, engaging with community, landcare groups and regulatory bodies to assist in the management of ecosystems, presentation of research findings, and supervision of research students. They will also assist with research design, quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis, and the preparation of manuscripts for publication in high-quality academic journals.

This is a 35 month research-only position, subject to a 6 month probationary/trial period, with the possibility of up to 2 years extension.

Application procedures and a position description with detailed selection criteria are available from the University's web site at <http://jobs.murdoch.edu.au/>. All applicants should address the selection criteria within their application.

Selection Criteria

Essential

- 1) Completion of a PhD in an appropriate discipline
- 2) Demonstrated ability in research project management
- 3) Demonstrated track record of publication in academic journals
- 4) Experience with both quantitative and qualitative research design, methodology and analysis, including use of statistical software programs
- 5) Excellent interpersonal and oral communication skills
- 6) Willingness and ability to work as part of a large interdisciplinary team
- 7) Willingness and ability to engage with external stakeholders such as community groups, NGOs and government departments
- 8) Experience with (and the ability to undertake) field-based research
- 9) A current driver's license

Desirable

- 1) Some background or interest in environmental restoration
- 2) Demonstrated experience with working in interdisciplinary contexts
- 3) Postdoctoral research experience
- 4) A background in environmental restoration and/or public understanding of science
- 5) A record of successful applications for research funding

The members of the Centre's 'Restoring Biodiversity Values' research project team are: Prof. Richard Hobbs (School of Plant Biology, UWA), Prof. Giles Hardy, Dr Katinka Ruthrof, Dr Mike Craig & Dr Trish Fleming (Schools of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology, and Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences, MU). Please direct questions about the position, in the first instance, Dr Trish Fleming Phone +61 8 93606577 or by email from t.fleming@murdoch.edu.au.

Closing date: Tuesday, 27 October 2009

<http://www.treehealth.murdoch.edu.au/>