Research Fellow – Forest Ecosystem Scientist

POSITION NO 0059132
CLASSIFICATION Level A
SALARY $80,258 – $108,906 p.a. (pro rata for part time)
(PhD entry level A.6 $101,460)
SUPERANNUATION Employer contribution of 17%
WORKING HOURS 1.0 FTE Full-Time

FLEXIBLE EMPLOYMENT
The University of Melbourne is strongly committed to supporting diversity and flexibility in the workplace. Applications for part-time or other flexible working arrangements will be welcomed and will be fully considered subject to meeting the inherent requirements of the position.

BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT Fixed term for 1.5 years
OTHER BENEFITS https://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/staff-benefits
HOW TO APPLY Online applications are preferred. Go to http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers, select the relevant option (‘Current Opportunities’ or ‘Jobs available to current staff’), then find the position by title or number.

CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY
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Please do not send your application to this contact

For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our website: about.unimelb.edu.au/careers
Acknowledgement of Country

The University of Melbourne acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the unceded land on which we work, learn and live: the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples (Burnley, Fishermans Bend, Parkville, Southbank and Werribee campuses), the Yorta Yorta Nation (Dookie and Shepparton campuses), and the Dja Dja Wurrung people (Creswick campus).

The University also acknowledges and is grateful to the Traditional Owners, Elders and Knowledge Holders of all Indigenous nations and clans who have been instrumental in our reconciliation journey.

We recognise the unique place held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the original owners and custodians of the lands and waterways across the Australian continent, with histories of continuous connection dating back more than 60,000 years. We also acknowledge their enduring cultural practices of caring for Country.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and future, and acknowledge the importance of Indigenous knowledge in the Academy. As a community of researchers, teachers, professional staff and students we are privileged to work and learn every day with Indigenous colleagues and partners.

Position Summary

You will work as part of a group of researchers improving and integrating our understanding of a range of biophysical processes in native forests, including hydrology, geomorphology, forest dynamics and wildfire science. Focus areas include tree water use, ecohydrology, post fire soil erosion, and forest response to a changing climate. As part of a team you will contribute to, and/or lead, the establishment of experimental sites in forests, the analysis of remotely sensed and field data, and the creation of models for understanding and predicting a range of biophysical processes in forests.

The incumbent will lead (as part of a team) the preparation of research publications in high-quality peer reviewed journals and conferences.

The position is located within the Forest Hydrology Research Group at the University of Melbourne’s Parkville Campus, within the newly formed School of Agriculture, Food and Ecosystem Sciences in the Faculty of Science (http://science.unimelb.edu.au).

We encourage applicants from under-represented groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. To allow us to consider performance relative to opportunity, we also invite applicants to provide a brief statement (up to 1 page) that describes circumstances that may have affected their career development or progression, including career interruptions or delays, periods of part time work, or forms of bias they have experienced.
1. **Key Responsibilities**

As with all positions, career achievements will be interpreted relative to opportunity, including career disruptions due to caring responsibilities, time in industry, illness etc.

1.1 **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

- This is a research-only position, although the successful candidate may be invited to give the occasional guest lecture or provide occasional help with specific teaching in their area of interest and expertise.

1.2 **RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING**

- Working under the guidance of the Chief Investigators, and as part of a team, plan and carry out multi-disciplinary research in native forests investigating hydrologic, geomorphic and bushfire-related dynamics and processes.
- Develop effective timelines and milestones for completion of the research projects.
- Contribute to work as a team and further the research group’s output, including contributions to the Forest Hydrology Research Group’s research and scientific communication objectives.
- Prepare and publish research outcomes in conferences and journals and other scholarly outputs to a high academic standard in accordance with the research expectations of the University of Melbourne.
- Undertake administrative functions and obligations primarily connected with the staff member’s area of research.
- Work towards building an independent research project and profile, including development of grant applications, with the support of Chief Investigators.
- Liaise effectively with collaborators with a variety of internal and external stakeholders.

1.3 **LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

- Active participating in communication and dissemination of research findings and their implications, to government, industry and collaborators.
- Contribute to broader knowledge exchange efforts within the Forest Hydrology Research Group.
- Actively contribute to the collegiate culture of the School and the Forest Hydrology Research Group.
- Actively participate in mentoring and career sponsorship of students and staff under supervision, as appropriate.

1.4 **RESPONSIBILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

- Maintain a sound knowledge of current University Policy and Procedures, and reliably follow these or provide compliant advice to others;
- Reliably follow communications protocols and/or policies as appropriate.
- Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in Section 4.
- Behavioural Expectations - All staff are expected to maintain the following behaviours:
Treat everyone equitably; act fairly with staff and demonstrate respect for diversity

Be an effective team player who is cooperative and gains the trust and support of staff, peers and clients through collaboration.

Create ethics applications and report to the ethics committees.

2. Selection Criteria

2.1 ESSENTIAL

- A PhD in Forest Science, Hydrology, Soil Science or other relevant biophysical discipline
- A record of high-quality research as evidenced by publications in leading journals and at conferences, commensurate with opportunity
- Experience developing, administering and completing appropriately designed research projects with limited supervision
- Ability to collaborate with industry partners
- Demonstrated ability to work independently but also to contribute as a member of a close-knit team

2.2 DESIRABLE

- A genuine interest in environmental processes associated with climate drivers
- An interests in multi-disciplinary research
- Supervision of students or other researchers
- Record of applying for and attracting research grant funding, and ideally some entrepreneurial flair
- Ability to code using any of R, Python, or MATLAB

2.3 SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE ROLE

- This position requires the incumbent to hold a current and valid Working with Children Check
- The Forest Hydrology Research Group is located at the Parkville Campus of the University of Melbourne, although location of the position may be negotiable.
- A drivers licence that is valid in Victoria: The position will require travel to field sites within Australia.
3. Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Inclusion

The University is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to providing a workplace free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, bullying, vilification and victimisation. The University makes decisions on employment, promotion, and reward on the basis of merit.

The University is committed to all aspects of equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace and to providing all staff, students, contractors, honorary appointees, volunteers and visitors with a safe, respectful and rewarding environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, vilification and victimisation. This commitment is set out in the Advancing Melbourne strategy that addresses diversity and inclusion, equal employment opportunity, discrimination, sexual harassment, bullying and appropriate workplace behaviour. All staff are required to comply with all University policies.

The University values diversity because we recognise that the differences in our people’s age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, physical ability and background bring richness to our work environment. Consequently, the People Strategy sets out the strategic aim to drive diversity and inclusion across the University to create an environment where the compounding benefits of a diverse workforce are recognised as vital in our continuous desire to strive for excellence and reach the targets of Advancing Melbourne.

4. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)

All staff are required to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of other personnel who may be affected by their conduct.

OHS responsibilities applicable to positions are published at:

https://safety.unimelb.edu.au/people/community/responsibilities-of-personnel

These include general staff responsibilities and those additional responsibilities that apply for Managers and Supervisors and other Personnel.

5. Other Information

5.1 Faculty of Science

http://www.science.unimelb.edu.au

Science at Melbourne is a global leader across fundamental and impactful scientific research and education. Science begins with curiosity, and we are dedicated to understanding the universe from the level of sub-atomic particles to the solar system. We aim to be leaders who positively impact the community locally and globally, addressing major societal issues from climate change to disease. Our discoveries help build an understanding of the world around us.

Our strength is our breadth of expertise. We are the second largest faculty in the University comprising seven schools: Agriculture, Food & Ecosystem Sciences, BioSciences,
Chemistry, Geography, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics, Physics and Veterinary Science.

This depth of knowledge positions the faculty to better understand, explore and impact our world and humanity, within a truly comprehensive Faculty of Science.

We have more than 150 years of experience in pioneering scientific thinking and analysis, leading to outstanding teaching and learning and offer a curriculum based on highly relevant research. We aim to train students with the knowledge and intellectual flexibility to drive the industries of tomorrow and lead across all levels of society.

We offer a range of undergraduate, honours, graduate and research degrees, enrolling more than 11,500 undergraduate and 3,750 graduate students.

We are dedicated to delivering leading transformative educational outcomes, underpinned by research, and an inclusive and inspiring student experience.

Excellence comes in many forms and diversity of thought, perspective and disciplines is essential to deliver globally leading science. At the core of our success is our focus on an inclusive environment for all in our community. Our Faculty’s focus on equity, inclusion and belonging is grounded in our endeavour to ensure we are best placed to advance research, teaching and serve diverse national and global communities.

As a Science community we sit across six of the University’s seven campuses – Parkville, Dookie, Burnley, Creswick, Shepparton and Werribee. This reach provides us with a unique perspective that is beneficial to our teaching and research. It also means we can offer our students a greater variety of learning experiences and internships to engage with industry partners to solve real-world issues.

The Faculty is custodian of the Bio21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute, Melbourne Energy Institute, Melbourne Biodiversity Institute, Office for Environmental Programs, Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute (AMSI) and the Indigenous Knowledge Institute and home to numerous Centres.

5.2 THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Established in 1853, the University of Melbourne is a leading international university with a tradition of excellence in teaching and research. The main campus in Parkville is recognised as the hub of Australia’s premier knowledge precinct comprising eight hospitals, many leading research institutes and a wide-range of knowledge-based industries. With outstanding performance in international rankings, the University is at the forefront of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and the world.

The University employs people of outstanding calibre and offers a unique environment where staff are valued and rewarded.

Further information about working at The University of Melbourne is available at http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers

5.3 ADVANCING MELBOURNE

The University’s strategic direction is grounded in its purpose. While its expression may change, our purpose is enduring: to benefit society through the transformative impact of
education and research. Together, the vision and purpose inform the focus and scale of our aspirations for the coming decade.

Advancing Melbourne reflects the University’s commitment to its people, its place, and its partners. Our aspiration for 2030 is to be known as a world-leading and globally connected Australian university, with our students at the heart of everything we do.

- We will offer students a distinctive and outstanding education and experience, preparing them for success as leaders, change agents and global citizens.

- We will be recognised locally and globally for our leadership on matters of national and global importance, through outstanding research and scholarship and a commitment to collaboration.

- We will be empowered by our sense of place and connections with communities. We will take opportunities to advance both the University and the City of Melbourne in close collaboration and synergy.

- We will deliver this through building a brilliant, diverse and vibrant University community, with strong connections to those we serve.

The means for achieving these goals include the development of the University of Melbourne’s academic and professional staff and the capabilities needed to support a modern, world-class university. Those means require a commitment to ongoing financial sustainability and an ambitious infrastructure program which will reshape the campus and our contribution to the communities we engage with. This strategy, and the priorities proposed, is centred around five intersecting themes; place, community, education, discovery and global.

5.4 GOVERNANCE

The Vice Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer of the University and responsible to Council for the good management of the University.

Comprehensive information about the University of Melbourne and its governance structure is available at [https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance](https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance)