

Position Description

Research Fellow - Spatial Ecologist/Ecological Modeller

Position No:	NEW
Department:	Centre for Freshwater Ecosystems
School:	Life Sciences
Campus/Location:	Albury-Wodonga
Classification:	LEVEL B – Research Fellow
Employment Type:	Fixed term, Full time
Other Benefits:	http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jobs/working/benefits

Further information about:

La Trobe University - <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/about>

College of Science, Health and Engineering – <http://latrobe.edu.au/she>

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Level B – Research Fellow - Spatial ecologist/ecological modeller

Position Context

We are seeking a highly motivated spatial ecologist/ecological modeller to contribute to several new projects funded under the ARC Linkage Scheme and NESP Resilient Landscapes Hub, along with other projects. The successful applicant will join a dynamic and high performing team within the Centre for Freshwater Ecosystems (CFE) working on modelling the impacts of hydro-climatic variability and change on the distribution and population dynamics of freshwater fish.

CFE is located within the School of Agriculture, Biomedicine and Environment (SABE) at La Trobe University's Albury-Wodonga campus, and combines expertise in hydrology, ecology, environmental and social sciences to undertake basic and applied research relevant to the management of aquatic ecosystems.

The successful candidate will be responsible for developing and implementing research that incorporates spatial modeling of species distributions, cost-benefit analyses associated with different management actions, and developing systematic approaches to prioritizing management actions at regional scales. The role will require expertise in aquatic ecology, species distribution modelling, R, GIS, and spatial conservation/prioritization frameworks.

Please note: The Centre for Freshwater Ecosystems is advertising two Level B positions simultaneously. Please examine both roles and apply for the role that best aligns with your expertise.

Responsibilities:

- Play a significant role in research projects including leadership of research teams and/or management of projects.
- Conduct research to identify key drivers of species distributions and abundances in aquatic ecosystems.
- Develop and implement spatial models to predict species distributions and abundances.
- Conduct statistical analyses using R to explore relationships between environmental variables and species distributions.
- Create maps and other visualizations of spatial data using GIS.
- Incorporate the costs and benefits of different management actions and conservation strategies into the spatial models.
- Obtain necessary research funding from contracts/grants/consultancies.
- Be involved in professional activities including attendance at conferences and seminars in field of expertise.
- Work collaboratively with a team of scientists and stakeholders to communicate results and inform conservation and management decisions.
- Undertake other duties and administrative functions commensurate with the classification and scope of the position as required by the Director or Dean.

Essential Criteria

Skills and knowledge required for the position

- Completion of a PhD or equivalent accreditation and standing together with subsequent research experience.
- A record of high-level scholarly research, as evidenced by the impact and significance of research outcomes.

- High level analytical capability with an ability to communicate complex information clearly both orally and in writing.
- Demonstrated ability to build relationships with a range of industry partners locally and/or nationally.
- Experience in quantitative modelling and or data analytics, including the capacity to integrate large datasets from a range of sources and of uneven quality.
- Experience in the use of R Statistical Computing Environment (other languages advantageous).
- Experience in using spatial/remote sensing data, either to directly support analyses or help in translation and scaling up of empirical site/based research
- **DESIRABLE**
- Experience in conducting field work, including fish trapping, electrofishing, water quality sampling and related techniques.
- Experience in the preparation of research proposal submissions to external funding bodies and evidence of success in securing funding.

Other relevant information:

- The position description is indicative of the initial expectation of the role and subject to changes to University goals and priorities, activities or focus of the job.

Capabilities required to be successful in the position

- Ability to demonstrate self-awareness, see things from another person's perspective and actively seek out and act on feedback to improve knowledge, skills and behaviour.
- Ability to work collaboratively, recognise the value of diversity and model accountability, connectedness, innovation and care.
- Ability to think creatively, explore new ideas and respectfully challenge existing practices in order to improve current ways of working.
- Ability to enable a safe, inclusive, high-performing team culture, prioritising staff mental health and wellbeing.

Essential Compliance Requirements

To hold this La Trobe University position the occupant must:

- hold, or be willing to undertake and pass, a Victorian Working With Children Check; AND
- take personal accountability to comply with all University policies, procedures and legislative or regulatory obligations; including but not limited to TEQSA and the Higher Education Threshold Standards.

Other Information

The position description is indicative of the initial expectation of the role and subject to changes to University goals and priorities, activities or focus of the job.

Position Flexibility

La Trobe University is committed to providing a diverse, inclusive and respectful working environment for all staff. We offer flexible work arrangements that can assist you in balancing your work and other responsibilities.

Why La Trobe:

- Develop your career at an innovative, global university where you'll collaborate with community and industry to create impact.
- Enjoy working on our inspiring and stunning campuses – the perfect hub for industry, students and academics
- Help transform the lives of students, partners and communities now and in the future

This is more than just a job. Working at La Trobe offers opportunities to demonstrate excellence and transform lives.

Here, you'll join exceptional people, partners and communities, who power our operations with ambition and purpose.

We are forward-looking and culturally inclusive. We continuously review, improve and transform our processes to embrace new, flexible approaches. That means you'll always have the opportunity to succeed and make a difference.

La Trobe's Cultural Qualities:



We are accountable

We strive for excellence in everything we do. We hold each other and ourselves to account, and work to the highest standard.



We are connected

We connect to the world outside – the students and communities we serve, both locally and globally



We are innovative

We tackle the big issues of our time to transform the lives of our students and society.



We care

We care about what we do and why we do it. We believe in the power of education and research to transform lives and global society. We care about being the difference in the lives of our students and communities

For Human Resource Use Only

Initials:

Date: