

# Position Description

## *Research Assistant in Marine Predator Ecology*



### Details

Faculty	Faculty of Science, Engineering, and the Built Environment
School	School of Life and Environmental Sciences
Employment	Full Time and Fixed-Term for 2 years
Location	Burwood Campus
Classification	Research Assistant (148)
Manager	Professor John Arnould

### Deakin

Deakin is a Victorian university with a global impact. We are agile and innovative, and committed to making a positive impact through our excellence in education and research and the contributions we make to the wider community.

Our reputation has been built on the dedication and expertise of our staff. We offer a dynamic, diverse and inclusive working environment with opportunities to grow and develop careers. We believe that a progressive, thriving culture will ensure people choose to come, and stay at Deakin and contribute to our ongoing success.

As one of Australia's largest universities, Deakin has strong global linkages, world-class research and an education portfolio that blends the best of campus and digital delivery into a highly supportive and personalised student experience.

We offer outstanding education founded on the experience we create for our learners and guided by graduate outcomes for successful lives and careers. We undertake globally significant discovery research that benefits our communities through the innovative translation of our ideas into new services, products, policies and capabilities.

Deakin campuses sit on Wadawurrung, Wurundjeri, and Eastern Maar Countries, and the [University acknowledges](#), values and deeply respects its connection with the Traditional Custodians and Elders past and present of these lands and waterways. Deakin is the most popular university destination in Victoria for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and has a rich history of supporting the ambitions of First Nations students, including through the NIKERI Institute (formerly the Institute of Koorie Education).

At Deakin we value diversity, embrace difference and nurture an inclusive, safe and respectful community. Deakin is an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality, a SAGE Athena SWAN Bronze Award holder, seeking gender equity for Women in STEM, and a Silver Award holder in the Australian Workplace Equality Index for LGBTQ inclusion. We strongly encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and people of all cultures, abilities, sexualities and genders.

[Strategic Plan – Deakin 2030: Ideas to Impact](#)

[Benefits of working at Deakin](#)

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### Overview

The Research Assistant in Marine Predator Ecology will work as part of a team collecting and analysing at-sea movement, habitat-use and behaviour data from seabirds and fur seals, information critical for understanding their interactions with, and potential impacts of, proposed offshore wind farm developments in Bass Strait. The position will involve considerable field work periods on offshore islands and assisting in the maintenance of critical equipment, relevant data bases and logistical planning.

### Responsibilities

1. Assist research academics through the capture and handling of seabirds and fur seals in the field for deployment and recovery of data logging devices.
2. Extraction and processing of data from animal behaviour data loggers.
3. Analysis of at-sea movement and behaviour data from seabirds and fur seals.
4. Support researchers by assisting in the preparation of ethics applications, supporting in the preparation of internal and external reports associated with projects and provision and filing of reports including production of figures, tables and graphs on the above work, and also assist with drafting papers for publication in reports and scientific journals, as requested.
5. Assist with maintaining relevant databases.
6. Manage the time available for the tasks.

### Relationships

- Internal relationships: Deakin Marine Research and Innovation Centre, School and Faculty Administration, and the University Research Office.
- External relationships: Various stakeholders (including industry and government agencies), partners, collaborators, and service providers.

### Selection

#### *Qualifications and experience*

- Bachelor's Degree in Science (or equivalent).
- Experience of research in marine mammal and/or seabird ecology and foraging behaviour.
- Demonstrated skills working with wildlife in the field.
- Demonstrated skills in analysis of animal movement and behaviour data.
- Experience as a productive member of a research team.

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### Capabilities

1. **Planning and Organising:** Plans, analyses and co-ordinates the delivery of projects while balancing priorities and resources.
2. **Analysis and Problem Solving:** Sources relevant information; identifies problems and offers sustainable practical solutions.
3. **Digital Literacy:** Interprets and distils information; produces clear communications through a variety of digital platforms.
4. **Collaboration:** Proactively supports working together, shares ideas and provides constructive feedback; respects and values others.
5. **Personal Resilience:** Maintains composure and focus under pressure, adapts to changing situations and recovers from setbacks.
6. **Building Networks and Partnerships:** Identifies and invests in relationships essential for growth and positive outcomes.

### Special Requirements

- Frequent travel (including camping) will be required for field work on offshore islands of Victoria's coastline, including working outside of normal business hours.
- A current Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme A Class banding permit, or the ability to acquire one.
- Driver's Licence.
- Working with Children Check.

### Note

The intention of the position description is to provide an outline of scope and responsibilities, at a point in time. Please note, responsibilities may evolve in accordance with organisational needs.