



PhD student in the research education subject Biology with specialization in Ecology Uppsala

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Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment

The Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment (www.slu.se/aquatic-sciences) is a competence center for applied environmental science and has a national responsibility for assessing the condition of Swedish surface waters with respect to water chemistry, pollution and aquatic biota. The department is part of SLU's Soil-Water-Environment Centre and has about 100 employees. The research focuses on geochemical and hydrological processes, aquatic ecology and biodiversity, as well as on aquatic ecotoxicology and environmental chemistry.

Microplastics in freshwater foodwebs

Description:

Public and scientific concern about the environmental impacts of microplastics (MP) and their implications for human wellbeing has never been higher. Unfortunately, growth in the empirical understanding of the dynamics and impacts of MPs lags behind. Research on the behaviour and impacts of MPs in freshwater ecosystems is especially deficient, despite their vulnerability to inputs of plastic waste (e.g. via storm water and other terrestrial runoff), and their capacity to act as key transport pathways through the landscape. Through a linked series of experiments, this PhD project addresses key gaps in the understanding of the behaviour of different types of MPs in streams, including their impact on resource consumption, growth and survival of organisms, and on biodiversity and key ecosystem processes, interactions with chemical stressors and outcomes for biota and ecosystem function and potential for transfer between trophic levels in food webs. The research will be conducted using state-of-the-art facilities in Sweden, Norway and Germany for generating variable MPs, and for running microcosm and whole channel experiments.

Qualifications:

Applicants should hold an MSc in aquatic ecology, ecology, ecotoxicology or equivalent and hold a current driver's license. Advanced skills in statistical analysis using the software "R" are highly desirable, and evidence of scientific publication in English is advantageous. Additional skills which are advantageous but not essential include: (i) previous experience working with stable isotopes, polyunsaturated fatty acids and/or approaches to quantifying ecosystem functioning; (ii) previous experience in ecotoxicological research (iii) knowledge of the taxonomy and ecology of aquatic invertebrates, and/or aquatic fungi. Applicants will be evaluated on their scientific potential and achievements, motivation for the proposed research, and attributes for working in a team on a large project. The application should include a Curriculum Vitae, a short description of experience indicating your suitability for the position and why you are interested, copies of degree certificates from higher education, a record of relevant publication where applicable, and contact information of at least two references. The position is full-time and will be granted for a period of four years, starting as soon as possible.

Place of work:

Uppsala

Forms for funding or employment:

Employment 4 years
Extent 100%

Starting date:

According to agreement, ideally before October 2019

Application:

We welcome your application no later than 2019-06-09, use the button below.

A person has basic eligibility for third cycle education if he or she has taken a second cycle qualification or has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 higher education credits at second cycle education. Upper secondary school grades equivalent to English B/English 6 are a basic requirement.

Selection among applicants meeting the requirements is made with reference to written application including curriculum vitae, copies of degrees and transcripts of academic records, one copy of the dissertation for masters or undergraduate degree, a list of at least two references familiar with the applicant's qualifications, certified knowledge of the English language and an interview.

Please observe that applicant/s chosen to participate in an interview shall hand in certified true copies of certificates, diplomas and transcripts from previous studies at an internationally recognized higher education institution (university or university college) and transcripts in connection to the interview. If the applicant is a foreign citizen we require a certified copy of the page in your passport with your personal data and photograph.

Read about the PhD education at SLU at www.slu.se/en/education/postgraduate-studies/

Academic union representatives:

<https://internt.slu.se/en/my-employment/employee-associations/kontaktpersoner-vid-rekrytering/>

The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) develops the understanding and sustainable use and management of biological natural resources. The university ranks well internationally within its subject areas. SLU is a research-intensive university that also offers unique degree programmes in for example rural development and natural resource management, environmental economics, animal science and landscape architecture.

SLU has just over 3,000 employees, 5,000 students and a turnover of SEK 3 billion. The university has invested heavily in a modern, attractive environment on its campuses in Alnarp, Umeå and Uppsala.

www.slu.se

SLU is an equal opportunity employer.

Contact person

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