



Molecular Ecology and Fisheries Genetics Laboratory



<http://mefgl.bangor.ac.uk/>

4 year, full time postdoctoral researcher in School of Biological Sciences, Bangor, UK

Understanding the ecological relevance of eDNA in freshwater lotic ecosystems

We are looking for a dynamic researcher to fulfil a leading role in a new, collaborative and multidisciplinary team working at the leading edge of environmental DNA (eDNA) analyses in order to advance our knowledge of the ecological relevance of eDNA in freshwater systems. Molecular biodiversity identification is emerging as a high throughput and cost effective alternative to traditional approaches and in particular, the analysis of 'free' environmental DNA (eDNA) provides an opportunity to measure biodiversity in space and time at unprecedented scales. Understanding how sources of eDNA relate to living biodiversity, land use and associated ecological function are focal aims of the project. The 4 year, £1.25M project led by Dr. Si Creer (<http://mefgl.bangor.ac.uk/staff/si.php>) is funded by the first round of NERC Highlight Topic funding (<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/portfolio/strategic/topics/>) and features collaborations with Cardiff University (Isabelle Durance; Steve Ormerod), the NERC Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (Jack Cosby, Bridget Emmett) and the Birmingham Joint Centre for Environmental - Omics (JCEO - John Colbourne). The project will utilise novel molecular ecological workflows, including genomic approaches to assess biodiversity, bioinformatics and ecological modelling working with a large team of collaborators and an international steering committee comprising leading representatives from the field of eDNA (including David Lodge, Mike Pfrender, Pierre Taberlet, Holly Bik, Peter Kille, Kristy Deiner and Xin Zhou), end-users and stakeholders.

Candidates should possess a doctoral degree in related areas such as natural sciences, ecology, evolution/genomics and should have previous experience of fieldwork, molecular ecology, high throughput sequencing, bioinformatics and modelling. The ability to drive, in addition to being physically fit to undertake fieldwork, and excellent team working and communication skills are essential.

The successful candidate (£31,656 - £37,768 pa; Grade 7) will be expected to commence in January 2016, or as soon after this as possible. Applications will only be accepted via the on-line recruitment website (<https://jobs.bangor.ac.uk/>; ref: BU01021). However, in cases of access issues due to disability, paper application forms are available by telephoning +44 (0) 1248 383865. Closing date for applications: 6th December, 2015 with interviews aimed to schedule first week in January.

Please contact Si Creer (s.creer@bangor.ac.uk; <http://mefgl.bangor.ac.uk/staff/si.php>; @spideycreer) in the first instance, copied to Mark De Bruyn (markus.debruyn@gmail.com) and Gary Carvalho (g.r.carvalho@bangor.ac.uk) for further information.

About MEFGL Bangor

The MEFGL (<http://mefgl.bangor.ac.uk/index.php/en>) is one of Europe's largest research centres focusing on population, species and community diversity of aquatic animals. Bangor is located in North West Wales, UK, situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty between Snowdonia National Park and the sea (<http://www.bangor.ac.uk/bangortv/bangorandthearea.php>), providing an opportunity for a very high standard of living amongst a spectacular natural environment. International links are facilitated easily via both Liverpool and Manchester airports and London is just over 3 hours away via high speed trains.