



University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Department for Forestry, Wildlife Ecology Research Group

Post-doc (or PhD) Position in Ecology & Wildlife Management

Reference: Position 1 – Adaptive behaviour of brown bears in contrasting landscapes of Europe

Application deadline: 30.04.2017

A full-time post-doc (or PhD) position is available at the Department for Forestry, Wildlife Ecology Research Group. Preferably post-docs are invited but we also encourage applications from highly-motivated PhD students with experiences in similar research work.

Starting date: June 1-st 2017 (can be delayed to up to three months)

Duration: 2.5 years, with possible extension.

Location: Večna pot 83, Ljubljana (Slovenia).

KEY WORDS: anthropogenic disturbances, human impacts, brown bear, *Ursus arctos*, GIS, landscape, resource selection, movement, activity, habitat selection, adaptive behaviour, Europe, Dinaric Mountains, Slovenia, Sweden

JOB DESCRIPTION:

We invite applications from highly motivated candidates with a passion for and experience in research related to animal behaviour – adaptive responses to anthropogenic disturbances. The position is a part of two (inter)national projects “Development of a multi-method approach to study wildlife behaviour: investigating human-bear conflicts in contrasting landscapes of Europe” (<http://www.bf.uni-lj.si/index.php?eID=dumpFile&t=f&f=21155&token=e13870a35b32898fd5309aa8cfe66202a8e41ddd>) and Life DinAlp Bear project (<http://dinalpbear.eu/home-page-1/>) action A.3.

Specifically, the applicant will explore the responses in the spatial ecology (circa-diurnal activity, resource selection) of brown bears (*Ursus arctos*) to different intensities of anthropogenic disturbances in the landscape by performing a large-scale comparative study of GPS collared brown bears from various populations in Europe (e.g. Slovenia, Sweden; see also <http://bearproject.info/>), where bears live in landscapes with contrasting intensities of anthropogenic disturbances. The main aims are to better understand: (1.) adaptive behaviour of brown bears as a response to increasing human disturbances (2.) the spatial use of brown bears across yearly, seasonal and circadian cycles and the effects of anthropogenic structures, and (3) the role of social interactions in spatial ecology of brown bears and its variation among individual life-stages (age classes, sex, female bears with cubs) and different landscapes. Moreover, the work will also include spatial analyses on the scale of Slovenia, Croatia and Italy, where we aim to perform more detailed spatial analysis to provide policy recommendations. The main collaborators of the applicant will be the leader (prof. dr. Klemen Jerina) and other members of the Wildlife research group at the Forestry department in Ljubljana, and also members of research groups collaborating in both projects (prof. dr. Felix Knauer from Fiwi: <https://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/fiwi/beruns/personen/>; prof. dr. Jon Swenson https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Jon_Swenson, and prof. dr. Andreas Zedrosser https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Andreas_Zedrosser from Scandinavian Brown bear Research project: <http://bearproject.info/>).

We seek a highly motivated and creative post-doc (or PhD student) with good communication skills in English (oral and written), a strong capacity for work, and ability to think independently. The successful candidate is expected to publish results in scientific journals and present them at scientific meetings and conferences as well as to more general public.

REQUIREMENTS:

Successful applicants will:

- hold a M.Sc./Ph.D. degree (or equivalent) in forestry, biology, ecology or another relevant discipline;
- have a solid background in animal ecology and spatial ecology;
- experience with statistical analyses (multivariate modelling, GLMM, etc.) and particularly spatial statistical analyses (habitat selection, landscape permeability, simulation of animal movement);
- experience with handling large datasets and good knowledge of geographic information systems and tools (preferably ArcGis);
- can work independently as a researcher and has previous experience with publishing results in scientific papers (peer-reviewed scientific journals);
- very good English skills.

SALARY:

Full-time contract.

Yearly gross salary scale:

31.713,60 €/year (post-doc position, salary class 40);

22.619,01 €/year (PhD position, salary class 30).

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED IN APPLICATION AND CONTACT DETAILS:

To apply please send an email to prof. dr. Klemen Jerina (klemen.jerina@bf.uni-lj.si) before April, 30-th 2017 and refer to the following reference: Position 1 - Adaptive behaviour of brown bears in contrasting landscapes of Europe

Attach a single PDF file to this email including:

- (1) cover letter with motivation letter including personal research interests, detailing the qualifications and research experiences of the candidate for the position (maximum 2 pages),
- (2) scientific CV including previous working experiences, a full publication list and copies of relevant academic certificates,
- (3) copies of all degrees (MSc up), and
- (4) contact details of at least two academic referees .

The most suitable candidates will be invited for an interview.

The University of Ljubljana is an equal opportunity employer.

The official version of this advertisement will be soon published on the University's homepage (https://www.unilj.si/aktualno/prosta_delovna_mesta) and homepage of Zavod za zaposlovanje.

Prof. Dr. Klemen Jerina

Contact details can be used for any further information needed:

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Page: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Klemen_Jerina