

Two Postdoctoral Researchers, Biodiversity Synthesis, University of Bern

Applications are invited for two, 3-year, postdoc positions conducting ecological synthesis in the Biodiversity Exploratories (<http://www.biodiversity-exploratories.de>). One postdoc will be supervised by Prof. Markus Fischer and the other by Prof. Eric Allan, both at the University of Bern in Switzerland.

The Biodiversity Exploratories project involves collaboration between over 50 research groups and examines relationships between environmental change (land-use intensification), biodiversity and ecosystem functioning in forests and grasslands. It has generated uniquely comprehensive biodiversity and ecosystem function datasets, including detailed land-use data, diversity data from a wide range of groups such as bacteria, fungi, arthropods, plants and vertebrates and data on many different ecosystem services. The synthesis project aims to utilise these data for combined analyses and therefore to create synergies between the different research groups, thus providing added value for the whole project.

We are seeking highly motivated applicants interested in the causes and consequences of biodiversity change, community ecology and/or ecosystem service research. As well as conducting synthesis analyses, applicants are expected to interact frequently with members of the Biodiversity Exploratories community and to organise workshops.

Applicants should have a PhD in ecology, or related discipline, and strong analytical skills, including familiarity with advanced statistical techniques and manipulation of large datasets (preferably using R). The positions will be based at the Institute of Plant Sciences in Bern, which offers a stimulating, international research environment and excellent facilities (www.botany.unibe.ch/planteco). Bern is also a beautiful city with a high quality of life.

Please send your application by email (as a single PDF by email) to eric.allan@ips.unibe.ch. Applications should include a CV, names and addresses of two references, a one page description of your research interests and a list of publications. Applications will be reviewed from 5th March 2015 until the position is filled.

For queries on the application process or more information on these positions, please contact Prof. Eric Allan eric.allan@ips.unibe.ch