



CREAF



SEVERO
OCHOA
EXCELLENCE



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

FIELD ASSISTANT FOR HABITAT MONITORING AND FISH SURVEYS IN MEDITERRANEAN STREAMS FOR *FISHINDROUGHT* PROJECT (ref. 22-037-52786)

CREAF is seeking a field assistant for the FISHINDROUGHT project (Under the surface: uncovering the role of individual differences in how fish populations cope with severe droughts) with grant number EC-92592R-22 and financed by the National Geographic Society.

Dr. Jolles, Severo Ochoa researcher at CREAF, and our research is aimed to better understand and predict how freshwater fish cope with droughts, an issue that has become very pressing due to the increasing effects of human-induced global change. In our work we combine behavioural experiments with field surveys and environmental monitoring to uncover in detail how drought affects the movements and distribution of freshwater fish, how that is linked to phenotypic variation, and what consequences this has for population persistence. Our research is focused on the Mediterranean streams and rivers of north-east Catalunya and the fish that inhabit them, in particular Mediterranean Barbel, Three-spined Stickleback, and Eastern Mosquitofish. For more information about our work, see jollejolles.com.

We are seeking a motivated field assistant to help set and run the field work during the summer of 2022. A full-time contract is offered, with a planned incorporation in June 2022 for a duration of 4 months. The salary offered is 1.410,73€ gross per month. The period can be extended to a 6-month contract at reduced hours if needed (with proportional salary). Local knowledge and experience with field work in the area, especially freshwaters, is a bonus.

TASKS

- Help with determining the best stream sections and study sites for our long-term field study to monitor droughts and its effects on the freshwater habitat and fish that inhabit it.
- Environmental monitoring of the study sites, including mapping the spatial extent of the water and refuge pools and detailed environmental characteristics.
- Fish surveys to monitor the presence/absence of fish at the study sites and its changes over time during the dry period.
- Catching and identifying, measuring, and sexing of the fish
- Testing and optimizing of monitoring methods, including the use of electrofishing, seine nets, dip nets, hand-nets, and in-situ surveys by snorkeling and underwater cameras
- Help with piloting, setting-up, and maintaining novel methodologies for environmental monitoring, including drone surveys and autonomous recording systems.

REQUIREMENTS

- Degree or equivalent with training in Ecology (biology, environmental science, conservation).
- Accredited experience in field work, ideally first-hand experience working with wild animals, in particular fish, and/or experience with environmental monitoring.
- Ability to work independently and work long days in the field.
- Good level of English, oral and written.
- Type B driving license.

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ASSESSABLE CONDITIONS

- Knowledge of the natural environment, in particular of the local region in north-east Catalunya.
- Experience with fishing and/or keen interest in fish-keeping.
- Interest in the study of environmental change, conservation, and animal behavior.
- Knowledge of Catalan language.
- Publication record.

SELECTION PROCES AND CRITERIA

1. Admission of candidates: **applicants must submit a *curriculum vitae (CV)*, a cover letter (maximum 500 words) (CV and cover letter in ENGLISH) and the questionnaire attached to the offer (filled), by e-mail to laboral@creaf.uab.cat, until 12 June 2022, indicating the reference code of the offer.** Applications referred to another portal, other than CREAM job openings section and the instructions included in this, will not be accepted.
2. Pre-selection: determination of compliance with the minimum requirements of the offer.
3. Selection: assessment of the preselected candidates by scoring based on objective criteria.
4. Final decision: in case of finding the suitable person, the election will be formally communicated to him/her, and the identification of the chosen person will be published on CREAM job opening section.

