



# PhD fellowship in ecology

PhD Project in community ecology / biodiversity  
Department of Biology  
Faculty of SCIENCE

## University of Copenhagen

The Department of Biology invites applicants for a PhD fellowship with the aim to assess “How big a threat are invasive plants to biodiversity” The project is funded by the 15 June Foundation.

Start date is (expected to be) 1st October 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter.

### The project

The overall aim of the PhD project is to: Quantify the net effect of exotic and invasive plant species on terrestrial biodiversity in Denmark and to propose management solutions to be applied in protected areas. This will be carried out 1) by using existing surveillance data from permanent plots across habitat types to assess if changes in the cover or richness of exotic plant species has led to decreasing native plant richness; 2) by comparing functional traits of exotic plant species to native species with increasing vs. decreasing trends in national occupancy; 3) by using host-plant databases to estimate to effect of exotic invasions in natural plant communities on associated invertebrates and fungi, and 4) assess the efficiency and costs of practical control measures based on information from land-owners.

### Who are we looking for?

We are looking for candidates within the field(s) of community ecology, biodiversity science or invasion biology. Applicants can have a background in ecology of plants, fungi and/or insects.

### Our group and research- and what do we offer?

The successful applicant will be based in the Section for Ecology and Evolution. The section focusses on biodiversity and organismal biology, community ecology, population biology and evolutionary biology. The section offers a vibrant multinational environment of faculty members, laboratory technicians, Post Docs, PhD candidates and MSc and BSc students. The PhD student will have a co-supervisor at the Department of Ecoscience, Aarhus University.

The group is a part of the Department of Biology, Faculty of SCIENCE, University of Copenhagen. We are located in Copenhagen.

**Principal supervisor** is assoc. professor Hans Henrik Bruun, Department of Biology, e-mail: [hhbruun@bio.ku.dk](mailto:hhbruun@bio.ku.dk), direct phone +45 35321211

## The PhD programme

A **three year full-time study** within the framework of [the regular PhD programme](#) (5+3 scheme).

### Qualifications

To be eligible for the regular PhD programme, you must have completed a degree programme, equivalent to a Danish master's degree (180 ECTS/3 FTE BSc + 120 ECTS/2 FTE MSc) related to the subject area of the project, e.g. biology, ecology, or a closely-related field. For information of eligibility of completed programmes, see [General assessments for specific countries](#) and [Assessment database](#).

### Terms of employment

Employment as PhD fellow is full time and for maximum 3 years.

Employment is conditional upon your successful enrolment as a PhD student at the PhD School at the Faculty of SCIENCE, University of Copenhagen. This requires submission and acceptance of an application for the specific project formulated by the applicant.

Terms of appointment and payment accord to the agreement between the Danish Ministry of Taxation and The Danish Confederation of Professional Associations on Academics in the State. The position is covered by the Protocol on Job Structure.

### Responsibilities and tasks in the regular PhD programme

- Carry through an independent research project under supervision
- Complete PhD courses corresponding to approx. 30 ECTS / ½ FTE
  
- Participate in active research environments, including a stay at another research institution, preferably abroad
- Teaching and knowledge dissemination activities
- Write scientific papers aimed at high-impact journals
- Write and defend a PhD thesis on the basis of your project

### We are looking for the following qualifications:

- Professional qualifications relevant to the PhD project
- Relevant publications
- Relevant work experience
- Other relevant professional activities
- Curious and critical mind-set with a strong interest in evidence-based nature conservation measures
- Fluency in spoken and written English is a requirement. Ability to communicate with practitioners in Danish nature management is necessary.

### Application and Assessment Procedure

Your application including all attachments must be in English and submitted electronically by clicking APPLY NOW below.

**Please include:**

1. Letter motivating your application for the specific PhD project (max. one page)
2. Curriculum vitae including information about your education, experience, language skills and other qualifications relevant for the position
3. Original diplomas for Bachelor of Science and Master of Science and transcript of records in the original language, including an authorized English translation if issued in another language than English or Danish. If not completed, a certified/signed copy of a recent transcript of records or a written statement from the institution or supervisor is accepted.
4. A short abstract of your MSc thesis
5. Publication list (where relevant)
6. Reference letters (optional; a maximum of two)

**Application deadline:**

The deadline for applications is 15 June 2023, 23:59 UCT +1

We reserve the right not to consider material received after the deadline, and not to consider applications that do not live up to the abovementioned requirements.

**The further process**

After deadline, a number of applicants will be selected for academic assessment by an unbiased expert assessor. You are notified, whether you will be passed for assessment.

The assessor will assess the qualifications and experience of the shortlisted applicants with respect to the above mentioned research area, techniques, skills and other requirements. The assessor will conclude whether each applicant is qualified and, if so, for which of the two models. The assessed applicants will have the opportunity to comment on their assessment. You can read about the recruitment process at <https://employment.ku.dk/faculty/recruitment-process/>.

Interviews with selected candidates are expected to be held in week 26.

**Questions**

For specific information about the PhD fellowship, please contact the principal supervisor.

General information about PhD study at the Faculty of SCIENCE is available at the PhD School's website: <https://www.science.ku.dk/phd/>.

*The University of Copenhagen wishes to reflect the surrounding community and invites all regardless of personal background to apply for the position.*

**SØG STILLINGEN**

*Københavns Universitet giver sine knap 10.000 medarbejdere muligheder for at udnytte deres talent fuldt ud i et ambitiøst, uformelt miljø. Vi sikrer traditionsrige og moderne rammer om uddannelser og fri forskning på højt internationalt niveau. Vi søger svar og løsninger på fælles problemer og gør ny viden tilgængelig og nyttig for andre.*

## **Info**

**Ansøgningsfrist:** 15-06-2023

**Ansættelsesdato:** 01-10-2023

**Arbejdstid:** Fuldtid

**Afdeling/Sted:** Department of Biology