



# PhD-student, Biology specialization in Ecology

**Ref** SLU.ua.2021.2.5.1-4581

## **Department of Aquatic Resources**

Do you want to work in an inspiring environment and contribute to the sustainable use of our seas, lakes and watercourses? We at the Department of Aquatic Resources (SLU Aqua) are passionate about our vision of "strong fish stocks in healthy waters". We are growing, and looking for employees who want to develop and make a difference together with us.

Welcome to visit us at [www.slu.se/aquaticresources!](http://www.slu.se/aquaticresources!)

## **Climate change effects on aquatic food web efficiency**

### **Description:**

Many freshwater and coastal ecosystems are undergoing rapid change in water temperature, nutrient and light conditions due to climate change and other human pressures. At the same time, climate warming is altering fish and invertebrate body size distributions and ecological interactions in aquatic food webs. This PhD project aims to resolve how such simultaneous changes in abiotic and biotic conditions affect the efficiency of energy transfer from primary producers to fish.

This is a great opportunity to pursue a fully funded PhD project and contribute to our understanding of how food webs in lakes and the sea will respond to ongoing climate change. We welcome you to bring your own ideas to the project and to combine different methodological approaches, including field experiments manipulating pressures, observations of aquatic organisms in environmental gradients as well as to develop dynamic size-resolved food web models. The project will produce novel understanding about ecological responses to environmental change. It will also add knowledge needed to evaluate strategies concerning risk of reduced energy transfer to the top of food webs with implications for the ability of aquatic ecosystems to act as carbon sinks and uphold high production of fish biomass in the future.

Welcome to join our team working on dynamics of fish communities and aquatic food webs, and their responses to climate change, exploitation and other human pressures ([www.slu.se/fishinfoodwebs](http://www.slu.se/fishinfoodwebs)). You will pursue your research and education within our team's international research network.

### **Qualifications:**

We are looking for a motivated person with strong quantitative skills in ecology. Applicants should hold a MSc degree in ecology, animal ecology, aquatic ecology,

limnology or marine ecology, theoretical ecology, or related disciplines. You should have a genuine interest in research and in learning to do research.

Good knowledge in community ecology and documentation thereof is required. Experience in analyses of population- or community dynamics is desirable. Skills in experimental ecology are highly advantageous. Skills in dynamic population or food web modelling are advantageous. Experience and skills in aquatic field work involving fish and zooplankton is meriting, as is experience of biological lab work. Demonstrated independent scientific work, experience of working in scientific teams, and skills in mathematics, R- or Matlab-programming are considered merits.

We place great emphasis on personal qualities such as curiosity, responsibility, and ability to work in a team as well as independently, and on personal suitability for the learning and research tasks. You are fluent in spoken and written English (required).

**Place of work:**

Uppsala

**Form of employment:**

Employment as PhD-student for 4 years.

**Starting date:**

To be agreed, preferably before April 2022.

**Application:**

We welcome your **application no later than 2022-02-02**, use the button below.

A person has basic eligibility for third cycle education if he or she has taken a second cycle qualification or has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 higher education credits at second cycle education. Upper secondary school grades equivalent to English B/English 6 are a basic requirement.

Selection among applicants meeting the requirements is made with reference to the **written application** including cover letter addressing the expected qualifications, curriculum vitae, copies of degrees and transcripts of academic records, one copy of the dissertation for masters degree, a list of at least two references familiar with the applicant's qualifications (with name, relation to candidate, email and phone number), certified knowledge of the English language and an interview.

Please observe that applicant/s chosen to participate in an interview shall hand in certified true copies of certificates, diplomas and transcripts from previous studies at an internationally recognized higher education institution (university or university college) and transcripts in connection to the interview. If the applicant is a foreign citizen we require a certified copy of the page in your passport with your personal data and photography.

Read about the PhD education at SLU at [www.slu.se/en/education/postgraduate-studies/](http://www.slu.se/en/education/postgraduate-studies/)

## **Academic union representatives:**

<https://internt.slu.se/en/my-employment/employee-associations/kontaktpersoner-vid-rekrytering/>

**The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)** develops the understanding and sustainable use and management of biological natural resources. The university ranks well internationally within its subject areas. SLU is a research-intensive university that also offers unique degree programmes in for example rural development and natural resource management, environmental economics, animal science and landscape architecture. SLU has just over 3,000 employees, 5,000 students and a turnover of SEK 3 billion. The university has invested heavily in a modern, attractive environment on its campuses in Alnarp, Umeå and Uppsala. [www.slu.se](http://www.slu.se) SLU is an equal opportunity employer.

## **Contact person**

Assoc. Prof. Magnus Huss (main advisor)  
+46 (0)10-478 41 27  
forename.surname@slu.se

Prof. Anna Gårdmark (co-advisor)  
+46 (0)10-478 41 25  
forename.surname@slu.se

Dr. Carolyn Faithfull (co-advisor)  
+46 (0)10-478 41 25  
forename.surname@slu.se

URL to this page <https://www.slu.se/en/about-slu/work-at-slu/jobs-vacancies/?rmpage=job&rmjob=5819&rmlang=UK>

[\*\*Apply\*\*](#)