



UNIVERSITÄT
BAYREUTH



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The University of Bayreuth is a research-oriented university with internationally competitive, interdisciplinary focus areas in research and teaching. Within the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences at the University of Bayreuth, the research group **Population Ecology, Prof. Dr. Heike Feldhaar**, is currently seeking to appoint a

Research assistant (PhD candidate) (m/f/d) on „Interactions between saproxylic insects and consequences for wood decomposition“

within the newly established DFG-funded Research Unit FOR 5207: „**Reassembly of species interaction networks – Resistance, resilience and functional recovery of a rainforest ecosystem**“ (reassembly.de). The successful candidate will monitor the abundance and diversity of insects in dead wood using network and co-occurrence analyses and will measure the impact of the insect community on the wood decomposition process across a forest recovery gradient. Extensive field work will be conducted in one of the global biodiversity hotspots in the Canadé reserve in the Chocó rainforest in NW Ecuador. Research will take place under co-supervision of Prof. Dr. Jörg Müller (University of Würzburg, Germany) and Prof. David Donoso, PhD (Escuela Politecnica Nacional Quito, Ecuador).

We offer a fixed-term 4-year position, starting on November 1st, 2021. The position comprises salary and benefits commensurate with a public service position at the University of Bayreuth, Germany (TV-L E13, 65%). The position provides the possibility to conduct a PhD.

Candidates interested in this position should have a M.Sc. in Biology/Ecology or related areas. Ideally, the candidate has experience with field work in remote areas and under challenging conditions. Skills in statistical data analysis (preferably with R) are expected. A focus on entomology and especially experience in the determination of arthropods (ideally ants and / or termites) would be a special benefit.

We expect the candidate to have good communication skills and the ability to work in an international team, with research groups from several German and Ecuadorian institutions and a conservation organization. The successful candidate is expected to repeatedly travel and work for prolonged periods at the research unit's field station in Ecuador. Fluency in English is a prerequisite, and Spanish would be particularly useful.

The University of Bayreuth views the diversity of its staff as an asset and is expressly committed to the goal of gender equality. Women and any persons who can help make the research and teaching profile of the university more diverse are strongly encouraged to apply. Applicants with children are very welcome. All qualifications being equal, applicants with disabilities will be given priority.

Please apply **online** via the [Applicant portal Uni Bayreuth](#) indicating the password “reassembly”. Your application documents should consist of a cover letter, a short summary of research interests and experience, CV, list of publications, certificates and contacts of two potential referees. **Application deadline is July 1st, 2021.** The documents will be deleted after the position has been filled in accordance with data protection requirements.

For further information please contact Prof. Dr. Heike Feldhaar (feldhaar@uni-bayreuth.de).