



POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE	Research Fellow, Aquatic Ecologist
POSITION NUMBER	00058808
POSITION LEVEL	Research Fellow, Grade 1
GROUP	Griffith Sciences
ELEMENT	Australian Rivers Institute
EMPLOYMENT TYPE	Full-time, Fixed term

THE GROUP

Griffith Sciences is one of four academic Groups within Griffith University. We provide a setting of international standard for the pursuit of learning, teaching, research and professional practice. Our researchers are internationally recognised and cover a diverse array of disciplines and have access to some of Australia's most technically advanced research facilities.

The Group hosts a student body in excess of 7,000 across three campuses with representation from 135 countries. Griffith Sciences employs over 400 academic staff and more than 200 professional staff and has a total annual budget of over \$140 million.

THE INSTITUTE

The Australian Rivers Institute (ARI) based at Griffith University in southeast Queensland, is a world leader in the study of estuarine, freshwater and marine ecosystems. Based on three decades of research in marine and freshwater science, the Institute now hosts over 150 staff and postgraduate students, bringing together researchers across disciplines, including ecology, biogeochemistry, climate modelling, social science and economics. Our commitment to research with real impact sees the Institute partner with a range of institutions around the world to deliver benefits to society and our natural environment.

THE PROJECT

This project will develop an economic-environmental accounting approach that will provide clear performance metrics to help inform development and conservation of aquatic habitats. The environmental accounts will help inform water planning and management of coastal wetland ecosystems. The project partners two major programs run by the Australian Rivers Institute.

The first is a consortium of organisations, including ARI at Griffith University, who are involved in research under the National Environmental Science Program (NESP) Northern Australia Environmental Resources Hub. NESP Hub partners undertake research to support sustainable development of Australia's unique northern environments. ARI is currently leading two complementary projects through the NESP Hub on environmental economic accounting and environmental flow management in northern Australia's river catchments.

The second program is the Global Wetlands research program, which is developing and applying globally applicable assessments of coastal wetland health to drive actions and investments towards protection, restoration and improvement of coastal wetlands worldwide. Coastal wetlands – mangroves, seagrass and saltmarsh – are valuable ecosystems with high biodiversity. However, as the world's coastal cities continue to grow and industrialise, many coastal wetlands are facing major declines in ecosystem health.

This is an opportunity to be part of major initiatives promoting the health of key aquatic ecosystems. The research fellow will work in a supportive team with complementary skills in ecology, economics, social science, statistical modelling, big data, and science communication.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS



POSITION OBJECTIVES

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will work closely with project Chief Investigators and colleagues in the Australian Rivers Institute. The Research Fellow will be required to actively contribute to these research projects, and as a member of the Australian Rivers Institute, to broader Institute activities. The role will require high-level skills in aquatic ecology, data analysis, stakeholder engagement and communications writing. The position will be located at either the Gold Coast or Nathan campus.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Conduct literature review and conceptual modelling for rivers and wetlands in Northern Australia in collaboration with other project participants as required on the project.
- Develop and apply an analytical framework for the analysis of environmental accounts across different aquatic ecosystems.
- Apply the framework for environmental accounts globally to coastal wetland ecosystems.
- Manage and contribute towards the preparation and formulation of publications, figures and maps, presentations and research reports arising from the research.
- Coordinate activities with other program participants to ensure effective team communication and collaboration throughout the lifetime of the project.
- Develop and maintain a good publication record in high impact, international, esteemed peer-reviewed journals and seek competitive funding.
- Assist with the development of research proposals as appropriate.
- Assist in the mentoring and co-supervision of PhD students.
- Support compliance with relevant legislation and University policies and procedures, including research ethics, equity and health and safety, laboratory standards and exhibit good practice in relation to same.
- Support fair, ethical and professional work practices in accordance with the University Code of Conduct.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential:

- PhD in aquatic ecology.
- Demonstrated experience in conceptual synthesis and review of ecological studies.
- Demonstrated experience in collating and analysing spatially explicit data.
- Development of a publication record in high-impact journals.
- Demonstrated excellent interpersonal and negotiation skills together with high-level written and verbal communication skills.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and with minimal supervision to meet competing deadlines, work effectively as a member of a team, and communicate with a range of stakeholders.

Desirable:

- Familiarity with Northern Australia's aquatic ecosystems and/or familiarity with coastal wetlands (seagrass, mangroves and saltmarsh).
- Experience in the analysis of links between water flow and ecosystem dynamics.
- Knowledge of R and/or GIS programs for data analysis.
- Demonstrated experience in stakeholder engagement for data collection and project facilitation, including face-to-face data collection in workshop and/or interview settings.

BENEFITS AND CONDITIONS

The following links provide access to information regarding the range of benefits enjoyed by Griffith staff and also key information regarding employment conditions.

BENEFITS	CONDITIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education assistance for Academic staff• Education assistance for General staff• Health plan• Salary packaging• Superannuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Code of conduct• Academic Staff Enterprise Agreement• General Staff Enterprise Agreement• Fairwork Australia Information Statement

Griffith is committed to diversity and inclusion for people from all backgrounds and identities and committed to the recognition, values and contribution of the First People of this nation.

Griffith offers professional development opportunities to support employees in their career progression and offers an excellent working environment that supports flexible working arrangements.

For more benefits and conditions information follow this link: [Griffith University | Pay, conditions and benefits > Employment](#)