

The [Department of Conservation Biology](#) at the University of Göttingen seeks highly qualified and motivated candidates for a fully funded

Post-Doc position

Global change impacts on insect communities

(pay grade TV-L 13, 100%, initially **four** years, with a possible fully funded extension for another two years, preferred starting date 01 January 2025).

The successful candidate will contribute to the climate future lab "DIVERSA – Forest disturbances under climate change in Lower Saxony: Understanding drivers and impacts to enhance forest adaptability". DIVERSA is funded by the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture. The project unites researchers of the Northwest German Forest Research Institute, the University of Göttingen, Leuphana University Lüneburg and other scientific institutions. The post-doc position is part of the subproject „*Dynamics of arthropod diversity and ecosystem functioning*“, led by Prof. Johannes Kamp and Prof. Andreas Schuldt (head of the [Forest Nature Conservation Group](#)).

The **goals** of the subproject are i) to analyse insect responses and resilience to large scale forest disturbance and management, focusing on moths, ii) to predict shifts in the composition of moth communities using remote sensing and citizen science biodiversity data, iii) to spatially upscale results of field-based research on arthropod diversity, biocontrol and forest resilience to herbivore and pathogen damage, iv) to synthesize data on post-disturbance reorganization of multifunctionality collected in DIVERSA.

Your **tasks** include:

- To collate and standardize insect occurrence data from official databases, citizen science platforms and unpublished sources;
- To use state-of-the-art statistical models to predict changes in distribution, occupancy, and resilience of moth communities in response to forest disturbance, management and environmental factors;
- To synthesize data and project results on ecosystem multifunctionality;
- To publish the results as peer-reviewed papers.
- To support the coordination of the subproject and collaborate closely with other DIVERSA subprojects.

We are looking for a highly motivated, open-minded person with the following background and qualifications:

- PhD/doctoral degree in Landscape Ecology, Environmental Sciences, Biology, Zoology, Geography, or similarly relevant fields of study;
- Strong theoretical and applied background in ecology or biogeography;
- Strong quantitative background, advanced skills in R or equivalent languages;
- Previous experience in database management;
- Experience with the analysis of larger spatial datasets;
- A publication record mirroring the current academic age;
- Excellent communication skills, very good English language skills in written and spoken form, confident public appearance;
- Awareness of the importance of participation, diversity, and equal opportunities.

In addition, the following skills and experiences are **advantages**:

- Species knowledge, ecological knowledge and sampling/surveying experience of insects, preferably Lepidoptera;
- Knowledge of forest ecology and management;
- Experience with the analysis of structured and unstructured citizen science data from public online databases;
- German language skills.

We offer close integration into the young and international teams of the project partners and involvement into the development of new research foci in the area of forest conservation and management. Göttingen is a medium-sized university town with a high quality of life. The renowned University of Göttingen offers excellent networking opportunities in the three "green" faculties of Biology, Agricultural Sciences, and Forestry.

The University of Göttingen aims to increase the proportion of women in areas where they are underrepresented and therefore strongly encourages qualified women to apply. It also sees itself as a family-friendly university and promotes the compatibility of science/profession and family. The university is particularly committed to the professional participation of severely disabled employees and therefore welcomes applications from severely disabled individuals. In case of equal qualification, applications from people with disabilities will be given preference. A disability should be mentioned in the application.

Please send your application as a combined pdf file to Ms. Andrea Lambertz (alamber@gwdg.de) by the **application deadline** on **31 October 2024**, consisting of:

- Motivation letter detailing relevant skills and experiences;
- CV incl. a list of peer-reviewed publications and attracted grant funding;
- Contact details of two persons willing to provide a reference;
- Copies of relevant academic certificates.

For inquiries about the job posting, please contact Prof. Johannes Kamp (johannes.kamp@uni-goettingen.de).