



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow, Faculty of Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£32,004 – £38,183 p.a.)

Reference: ENVGE1047

Closing date: 1 February 2017

Fixed-term for 2 years

Research Fellow in Evaluating and Communicating the Impact of Climate Change on Tropical Forests

School of Geography, Faculty of Environment

Would you like to be part of an exciting new research project evaluating and communicating the impact of climate change on tropical forests? Are you interested in contributing to the management of protected areas in Peru? Do you have a PhD in Tropical Ecology, Conservation and/or Systematics of Neotropical Forests?

You will have a unique opportunity to further our understanding of the resilience of the forests of the Andes-Amazon region to climate change and to use this knowledge to directly influence the management policies and monitoring strategy of the protected areas of the Peruvian Andes-Amazon region. The project requires close liaison with the Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado ([SERANANP](#)) in Peru and will use permanent forest plots that form part of the [RAINFOR](#) network to understand how different environmental drivers are affecting forest structure and composition.

You will be based in Peru and have a natural flair for communicating science and facilitating collaboration amongst research organisations, government institutions and non-governmental organisations (NGO's) in both English and Spanish. You will also have a proven interest in the development of effective management strategies for protected areas in the tropics. Experience of fieldwork in a tropical forest environment and the challenges of creating, maintaining and using large, high quality science datasets is an essential requirement of the role.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Communicating and disseminating knowledge acquired from the project to influence strategy and initiatives of the Peruvian protected area network;
- Analysing the impact of climate change on forest structure and composition;
- Contributing to the organisation and execution of fieldwork, workshops and meetings of the project;



- Contributing to writing reports, research permit applications and other external communications as required by the project;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, including assisting with the supervision of projects.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Fellow you will have:

- A PhD, or very close to completion, in Tropical Ecology, Conservation and/or Systematics of Neotropical forests;
- A proven interest in the effective management and monitoring of protected areas in the tropics;
- Experience in communicating scientific results to a wide range of external stakeholders in order to deliver impact;
- Experience of fieldwork in a tropical forest environment;
- Experience of creating, maintaining and using large scientific datasets;
- A developing record of peer-reviewed publications;
- The ability to speak fluent English and Spanish;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including presentation skills;
- The ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- The ability to work well both individually and in a team.



You may also have:

- Experience in data collection and analysis of tropical forest inventory data;
- Experience of obtaining funding.

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the closing date.

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Dr Tim Baker, Associate Professor in Tropical Forest Ecology and Conservation

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 6832

Email: t.r.baker@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Find out more about the work of the project lead, [Dr Tim Baker](#).

Find out more about the [Faculty of Environment](#).

Find out more about our [School of Geography](#).

Find out more about our [Research and associated facilities](#).

Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty of Environment.

Working at Leeds

You can find out more about our generous benefits package and more about what it is like to work at the University and live in the Leeds area in our [Working at Leeds](#) information.



Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found in our [Accessibility](#) information or by getting in touch with us at disclosure@leeds.ac.uk.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position, however, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records information](#).

