

## Fish and Food Web Ecologist

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Company: UKCEH

Location: Lancaster

Category: other-general

Salary - £45,065 - £47,823

Permanent

We reserve the right to close this advert early if we find the right candidate, so we encourage you to apply early.

UKCEH is looking for an experienced Fish and Food Web Ecologist to join our 600-strong team, contributing to scientific discovery and generating the data, insights and solutions that researchers, businesses and governments need to solve complex environmental challenges. Working at UKCEH is rewarding. Our science makes a real difference, enabling people and the environment to prosper, and enriching society. We are the custodians of a wealth of environmental data, collected by UKCEH and its predecessors over the course of more than 60 years.

As a valued member of our team, you'll get:

27 days annual leave, rising to 29 days after five years

10% employer pension contribution

Enhanced maternity and paternity leave (subject to qualifying requirements)

24 hour, 365-day access to support with physical, mental, social, health or financial issues plus access to our trained Welfare Officers

Flexible working opportunities

And much more...

We are looking for an enthusiastic Fish and Food Web Ecologist with a background in fish/fisheries to establish and strengthen our fish ecology capabilities within our Water Resources Science Area. Working within our Lake Ecosystems group at Lancaster, you will join our friendly and passionate team of field and lab freshwater scientists and play a pioneering role in the establishment and ongoing enhancement of this exciting and burgeoning area of science for UKCEH.

The purpose of your role will be to establish and lead research on fish populations and communities, freshwater fisheries, and food web interactions, in collaboration with the wider team and external partners. This role will provide new skills and perspectives that will contribute to ongoing ecosystem-scale long-term and high-resolution monitoring of sentinel fresh waters in the UK natural environment, large outdoor experiments, and campaign-based research. It is anticipated that this research could extend beyond the UK.

You'll join a deeply collaborative, multi-disciplinary team, adding to critical research on the evolving state of our freshwater environments. With support from a recently appointed Assistant Freshwater Ecologist, you'll engage in activities such as rare fish conservation, ecosystem evaluation, and tackling socio-economic factors associated with subsistence fisheries abroad. In addition, you will be responsible for developing and leading a portfolio of research in these topic areas, collaborating with expertise within UKCEH, and in partnership with key regional, national, and international stakeholders. Locally based research will be carried out on lakes in the beautiful and iconic surroundings of the English Lake District, complementing long-term monitoring, and could capitalise on large outdoor experimental facilities.

You'll be joining a leading independent, not-for-profit research institute that's committed to recruiting talented people like you, progressing your career and giving you the support you need to thrive at UKCEH.

Your main responsibilities will include:

Leading role in developing research proposals and projects related to fish and fisheries ecology

Building partnerships with key stakeholders and collaborators interested in freshwater fish research, conservation, and management

Leading and assisting in campaign-based and routine fieldwork, including boat-based long-term ecosystem monitoring in the English Lake District

Leading role in fish husbandry for large-scale mesocosm experiments

For the role of Fish and Food Web Ecologist, we're looking for somebody who has:

A PhD in environmental science or ecology

Proven expertise, and a track record in fish or fisheries research and conservation, including food web perspectives, evidenced by several high impact peer-reviewed journal papers and/or published reports

Expertise in the practical implementation of fish surveys in lakes, using boats (e.g. hydroacoustics, eDNA, netting)

Skills and experience in the statistical analysis of complex ecological datasets, including working with scientific programming languages (e.g. R)

Evidence of success in winning income for their research, and understands the importance of budgetary control and ensuring value for money

A track record of effectively establishing strong working relationships with multi-/trans-disciplinary groups

A full UK driving licence

We would welcome applicants with scientific specialisms in the role of fish in freshwater food webs, rare fish conservation, fish population modelling, fish/fisheries in an international context (e.g. nutrition and socioeconomics), or invasive species detection and management.

In addition to the qualifications mentioned earlier, we highly value candidates who actively engage in national and international scientific networks, fostering collaborations and staying updated on the latest developments in their field. Lastly, candidates should demonstrate a willingness to travel and conduct work overseas,

If we've just described you, we'd love to meet. To apply, please send us your CV, accompanied by a covering letter which highlights any relevant skills and experience you feel would be well suited for this particular role.

We welcome applications from international candidates; however, at present, we are unable to provide visa sponsorship for this role.

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