



Job vacancy

Research Fellow (Pre/Post-Doc) - Peatland Science Group 25/Wi12

University of Greifswald, 24 March 2025 | deadline: 30 April 2025

At the **Institute of Botany and Landscape Ecology**, Peatland Science Group at the University of Greifswald's Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, there is a job vacancy for a part-time position (65%), starting from **1 July 2025**, as

Research Fellow (Pre/Post-Doc).

The contract is limited to 30 November 2026 (with the option of extension to 30 June 2028). Payment shall be made in accordance with pay group 13 *TV-L Wissenschaft*.

The Peatland Science Group works broadly on many key topics of peatland research. In addition to basic palaeo-ecological research, we conduct studies and projects on the sustainable use of peatlands (paludiculture), the recording of carbon turnover and greenhouse gas exchange in wetlands as well as the synthesis of available data on the role of peatlands and wetlands (including coastal ecosystems) in the Earth's climate system. Landscape-ecological peatland and wetland research is based on collaboration and interdisciplinary exchange. We combine basic research with possible applications and practical relevance.

In the **MoorPower** research project we aim to analyse the technical, ecological and socio-economic effects and legal aspects of combining peatland rewetting and photovoltaics (peatland PV) for the first time to derive recommendations for the specific implementation of peatland/Paludi PV in Germany. The University of Greifswald is coordinating the research project at the Institute of Botany and Landscape Ecology; the Institute of Microbiology, the Institute of Geography and Geology, the Zoological Institute and Museum, and the Institute for Energy, Environmental and Maritime Law (IfEUS) are also involved. Collaborating partners are the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE, the University of Hohenheim, the Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, and practice partners.

The position advertised here will investigate the greenhouse gas exchange of rewetted fens with and without ground-mounted photovoltaic systems. Peatlands emit large amounts of CO₂ when drained. With good vegetation development, rewetted peatlands absorb CO₂ and release CH₄. The effects are strongly dependent on the water level and vegetation. The effects of photovoltaic systems on peatlands are currently unknown. Methodologically, the position holder will combine measurements of GHG exchange using the canopy method with surveys of additional data (partly also from cooperation partners), such as water levels, soil moisture, soil and air temperatures, DOC and nutrients in pore water, etc. The position is suitable for the completion of a doctorate.

Tasks:

- Measurement and analysis of greenhouse gas exchange on sites with peatland PV in comparison to the drained reference state and (to enable the assessment of potential) to near-natural control sites of the respective type of peatland

- Planning, implementation and overseeing of GHG exchange measurements in the field and, if necessary, in experimental approaches
- Organisation and implementation of the recording of additional parameters such as water level, temperatures, radiation, water chemical parameters, etc.
- Regular estimation of GHG fluxes, determination of annual and seasonal balances and analysis of all the collected data to improve the understanding of the process linked to GHG fluxes in peatland PV systems
- Publication of the results in relevant, established, scientific journals
- Possibility of completing a doctorate

Requirements:

- Completed postgraduate university degree in landscape ecology, biology, agricultural sciences or equivalent
- Comprehensive understanding of the ecology of peatlands
- Very good German and English language skills
- Driving licence and willingness to travel regularly to the study sites in northern Germany

Desirable:

- Great interest in applied research on the topic of peatlands/peatland protection
- Experience in carrying out, organising and/or analysing GHG exchange measurements
- Ability to work independently with hands-on mentality, team spirit, helpfulness and reliability

The position is open to all persons, irrespective of gender. Severely disabled applicants with the same qualifications will be considered with preference. According to § 68(3) PersVG M-V, the Staff Council will only be involved in staff matters of the academic or artistic staff on request.

Please only submit copies of your application documents as they cannot be returned. Unfortunately, application costs (e.g. travel expenses for interviews) will not be reimbursed by the State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

Please note that by submitting your application, you provide your consent pursuant to data protection law for our processing of your application data. Further information about the legal bases and the use of your data can be found [here](#).

Please send your application with the usual documents via email (one PDF file), with reference to job advertisement number **25/Wi12** by **30 April 2025** to:

Universität Greifswald
Institut für Botanik und Landschaftsökologie
Prof. Dr. Gerald Jurasinski
Soldmannstr. 15
17489 Greifswald

gerald.jurasinski@uni-greifswald.de



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