



Job Reference Number: UOS035913

Job Title: Research Technician

Faculty: Faculty of Science

Department: School of Biosciences

Salary: Grade 5
£24,285 - £27,131 per annum, pro-rata

Closing Date: 25th January 2023

Summary:

We are seeking to recruit a research technician to join Professor Maltby's group. The successful candidate will work on a new ambitious project that seeks to transform how we evaluate the risks of chemical mixtures to freshwater biodiversity in UK rivers. The project is funded by the Natural Environment Research Council and is a collaboration between the universities of Sheffield, York and Durham.

We are facing a global biodiversity crisis and freshwater biodiversity is declining more rapidly than either terrestrial or marine biodiversity. One in ten freshwater and wetland species in England are threatened with extinction and two thirds of existing species are in decline. The Environmental Audit Committee recently summarised the state of water quality as: "rivers in England are in a mess. A 'chemical cocktail' of sewage, agricultural waste, and plastic is polluting the waters of many of the country's rivers".

The understanding and predictive modelling tools developed during this project will inform the development of better plans for adaptation to, and mitigation of, the risks associated with declining water quality now and in the future. By taking an integrative and system-wide approach, this project will help deliver the Environment Act's aspiration to "reverse the decline in species abundance by the end of 2030".

Applicants must have 5 GCSEs A*-C/ 4+ including English, Maths, Science and ICT, or a Level 3 Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship, or equivalent experience. Current theoretical and practical knowledge of at least one aspect of the following is also essential: field sampling, identification and maintenance of freshwater invertebrates; preparation of culture media and maintenance of invertebrate cultures (*Daphnia*, *Lumbriculus*, *Chironomus*); maintenance of fungal cultures and preparation of fungally-conditioned leaf material; laboratory toxicity testing with freshwater invertebrates.

We're one of the best not-for-profit organisations to work for in the UK. The University's Total Reward Package includes a competitive salary, a generous Pension Scheme and annual leave entitlement, as well as access to a range of learning and development courses to support your personal and professional development.

We build teams of people from different heritages and lifestyles from across the world, whose talent and contributions complement each other to greatest effect. We believe diversity in all its forms delivers greater impact through research, teaching and student experience.

To find out what makes the University of Sheffield a remarkable place to work, watch this short film: www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LbILk18zmo, and follow @sheffielduni and @ShefUniJobs on Twitter for more information.