



The Norwegian Polar Institute Biodiversity section

Jobbnorge ID: 209646
Deadline: 9/1/2021
Website: <http://www.npolar.no>
Scope: Fulltime
Duration: Fixed Term

We need a

Postdoctoral Research Fellow in marine mammal spatial ecology

We have an open position

as Postdoctoral Research Fellow in marine mammal spatial ecology. This is a fixed-termed position for 3-years and belongs to the Svalbard program portfolio. This program consists of a wide range of projects that ensure interdisciplinary environmental management research. You will be employed in Section for Biodiversity in our Research Department. The section consists of about 25 researchers, engineers and students working with plant and animal populations and their interactions with the environment. Climate change and other ecosystems drivers are principle areas of research within the group.

Your work place will be Tromsø, Norway. Some travel will be expected to field sites and scientific meetings and workshops relevant to the project.

Work Content

The position is funded by the Norwegian Research Council's ARK project (Arctic marine mammals in a time of climate change: a Kongsfjorden Case Study) and the EU-project "The future of Arctic coastal ecosystems - Identifying transitions in fjord systems and adjacent coastal areas" (FACE-IT - <https://www.face-it-project.eu/>). Sightings data, acoustics data, populations survey data and tracking data - as well as dietary data - will be brought together to feed into food web and ecosystem models.

You will specifically:

- participate in fieldwork deploying biologging instruments on seals in Kongsfjorden, Svalbard
- perform 3D spatial analyses using data from biologging instruments along with environmental co- variates (temperature, ice cover etc). The analysis will be used to explore habitat use and niche overlap among species in the context of climate change.
- engage with food-web and ecosystem modelers to integrate marine mammal spatial information into a variety of different models that have been designed to explore ecosystems interactions
- write scientific publications arising from the tagging data
- participate in a variety of public outreach efforts to inform the public about the scientific knowledge accrued in the project

Qualifications

You must hold a completed PhD in Biology or a related field. PhDs from other fields like statistics or mathematics will be considered if you can demonstrate skills and research experience relevant for the project.

A Norwegian doctoral degree or equivalent doctoral degree from a foreign university is required. You are welcome to apply if you have not completed your doctoral dissertation yet, but you must then provide documentation that your dissertation has been submitted for evaluation before the position's closing date. An approved public defence of your doctoral thesis is a prerequisite for employment.

In addition to your PhD the position requires:

- experience with 3D spatial modelling of marine vertebrates (diving, as well as positional information)
- good working competence with Excel/Access, multivariate statistics, relevant R statistical packages, Matlab, etc.
- a good scientific publication record (for your career stage) that includes spatial ecology publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals

Knowledge of marine mammal biology, Arctic ecosystems, and/or climate warming problematics will be seen as assets. Previous field experience working with marine mammals in polar regions will also be viewed favorably.

We are looking for a person who is self-motivated and productive - one who takes responsibility for preparing necessary background knowledge on analytical methods (etc.) and works efficiently to accomplish tasks. You will collaborate with colleagues at the Norwegian Polar Institute and collaborators within the project, so good collaborative skills and the ability to work in small field teams is essential. ARK consists of researcher from Norway, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom and Poland. You will, of course, also work independently.

Good language skills in English are required. Our working language is Norwegian, so knowledge of the Norwegian language will carry weight in the assessment. If you do not speak Norwegian you are expected to attend language courses within the first two years of your employment since communicating in Norwegian will be important for you, as well as for the institute. We pay for courses that are completed successfully.

We can offer

- interesting and exciting work tasks in highly international research environment (with strong linkages to management)
- salary according to the Norwegian State salary code 1352 postdoctoral research fellow. From this, 2% is deducted to the State Pension Fund.
- field pay according to national and local agreements
- pension and insurance through the State Pension Fund

A diverse work force is important to us. If you are qualified for the position, you are welcome to apply regardless of your gender, age, cultural background, disabilities or gaps in your CV. The latter two may be used for registration purposes in connection with the government's policies.

Tromsø and the surrounding area have excellent conditions for experiencing the midnight sun, polar night, Northern lights, varied outdoor activities and a lively cultural and entertainment environment. Tromsø is situated at nearly 70°N with just about 75.000 residents. The city is an expanding centre for research, with numerous governmental and private research institutions and a major well-established university.

Applications

Further inquiries about the position may be directed to Section Leader Dr Kit M Kovacs, kit.kovacs@npolar.no, tel. +47 992 89 702, or Senior Research Scientist Dr Christian Lydersen, christian.lydersen@npolar.no, tel. +47 909 30 776.

The application deadline is 1 September 2021.

The application with attachments must be submitted electronically via www.jobbnorge.no. The application should include details of your relevant qualifications and experience, CV, publications list, copies of your transcripts and names of three references. Please, do not include copies of publications or other works in the application, but note that this may be requested later in the process.

All applications are handled in confidentiality until the application deadline. Thereafter, a public list of applicants will be prepared. Applicants who wish to reserve their applications from the public list must give reasons for this in their applications. Information about an applicant can be made public even if the applicant has requested that they be excluded from the public list of applicants, cf. Freedom of Information Act, Section 25, 2nd paragraph.

The Norwegian Polar Institute

is a directorate under the auspices of the Ministry of Climate and Environment and has approximately 160 employees located in Tromsø, Svalbard and Antarctica. The institute is the main strategic adviser for the Norwegian State in polar issues,

represents Norway internationally with respect to polar sciences and management committees and processes, and is Norway's environmental authority in Antarctica.

For more information visit www.npolar.no.

Additional information

Place of service:

Tromsø 9296 Tromsø (Tromsø - Romsa Municipality)