

## **PhD position in population ecology of edible dormice – the impact of climate change**

A PhD position is available in Claudia Bieber and Thomas Ruf's research group at the Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology in Vienna, Austria (<https://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/fiwi/>).

The PhD candidate will continue a long-term field study (started in 2006) on edible dormice in the Vienna woods. This includes intensive field work during the active season of dormice (May – October). The successful applicant will carry out the nest box controls at fortnight intervals (on average two days per session). Major part of this PhD project will be to evaluate the long-term data set and to model aspects of the population ecology in edible dormice. This includes the calculation of survival estimates (Program R-MARK) and the impact of climate and food availability (seeding patterns in beech, micro habitat use) on reproduction and survival. Due to the long-term data set we aim to investigate effects of climate change on the forest and our dormouse population.

Applicants should have an M.S. degree (or equivalent) and a background in ecology. Experience and a strong interest in modelling and programming (program R) is a necessity. Our lab places a strong emphasis on the use of modern applied statistics. Experience with small mammals is advantageous.

The positions are available from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2025 (3 years), with the chance of a prolongation for a further year. The salary is circa based on the guidelines of the Austrian Science fund (<https://www.fwf.ac.at/en/research-funding/personnel-costs>). The exact remuneration for this post will be in accordance with the candidate's qualification according to established rates of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna.

Formal applications should include the following as a single pdf file: (1) a CV with names and contact information of two referees, and (2) a letter of motivation (2 pages maximum).

The deadline for **applications is 31 July 2022**, the preferred starting date is the 1<sup>st</sup> of September but a starting date somewhat later is possible. Inquiries and applications should be directed to **Claudia Bieber** ([claudia.bieber@vetmeduni.ac.at](mailto:claudia.bieber@vetmeduni.ac.at))

The Research Institute of Wildlife Biology (FIWI) is located in the Vienna Woods, at the periphery of Vienna, though only 30 min from the city center, and is part of the Department of Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna). Both German and English are commonly spoken; German is useful but not required. Our research is supported by administrative and IT staff. A car for field trips is available. FIWI has many national and international collaborations, a high rate of third-party funding, and an excellent publication output. Vienna has recently again won an international competition for the city with the best living standards worldwide.