

(An Autonomous Institution of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India) Chandrabani, Dehra Dun - 248 001, INDIA EPBAX: 0135-2640114 and 2640115, FAX: 2640117 Web site: <u>www.wii.gov.in</u> Email: <u>wii@wii.gov.in</u>

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ENGAGEMENT OF PROJECT ASSOCIATE, PROJECT FELLOW, AND PROJECT ASSISTANTS FOR THE NATIONAL MISSION FOR SUSTAINING THE HIMALAYAN ECOSYSTEM (NMSHE) PROJECT

The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) is a premier national institution working towards strengthening Wildlife Conservation and Management through research, training and education. The Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, is implementing the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) through national institutions which are nodal agencies for different Task Forces. WII, as the nodal agency for the Task Force on Fauna and Micro Flora has launched a 5 years project (2014-15 to 2018-2019) 'Assessment and Monitoring of Climate Change Effects on Wildlife Species and Ecosystems for Developing Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies in the Indian Himalayan Region' under NMSHE.

WII is looking for bright candidates from **Biological and Environmental Sciences** backgrounds for filling up of following positions: Project Associate 01 (one), Project Fellow (01) and Project Assistant 04 (four) in the above project. Applications are invited from Indian citizens who are willing to contribute innovative ideas and undertake research in the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) to address the emerging challenges of climate change impacts on Himalayan biodiversity.

All engagements are on contractual basis initially for a one year period from the date of appointment that can be extended depending on the candidate's performance and the programme needs. The headquarters for the above posts would be Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun and/or its various field locations in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and West Bengal (northern hill districts). The work description, essential and desirable qualifications and the consolidated monthly emoluments of personnel required are given below.

Name and Number of	Essential Qualifications	Desirable Qualifications^	
Position(s) &		Desirable Qualifications	
Emoluments/Fellowship			
Project Associate*	Ph.D. in Biological / Social	Experience in the Himalaya or	
(Human Ecology &	Sciences or related fields	in the field of natural resource	
Communication)		assessment and use by	
01 (one)	Age: up to 40 years	humans, ecosystem services,	
		human-wildlife interface	
PA-I Rs. 36,000		issues. Proven Science /	
PA-II Rs. 38,000		popular writing and	
PA-II Rs, 40,000		communication/ publication	
+ HRA		skills. Web page	
		maintenance, networking,	
		citizen science programme,	
		outreach & extension	
Project Fellow**	Post Graduate Degree in	Prior experience and interest in	
(Human Ecology)	Wildlife Sciences/ Zoology/	field data collection for natural	
01 (one)	Forestry/ Environmental	resource use by people, human- wildlife interface issues and their	
	Sciences or Management/ Life	management	
Rs. 16,000/month for	Sciences/ Biodiversity and		
first two years and	Conservation/ Social Sciences	Ecosystem services, Ecosystem	
18,000/month (After	with a minimum of 60%	management	
two years & fulfilling	aggregate marks from a	Science writing and	
requirements) + HRA	recognized University.	communication skills	
	Age: up to 28 years		
Project Assistant	Graduate / Post graduate	Experience /interest in field	
• • • • • •	Degree in Wildlife Sciences/	data collection for fauna	
04 (four)	Zoology/ Forestry/	(particularly insect fauna)	
	Environmental Sciences or		
Rs. 8,000/month	Management/ Life Sciences/	socio-economic/ natural	
+ HRA	Biodiversity and Conservation /	resource use surveys	
	social sciences with a minimum		
	of 60% aggregate marks from a	Experience in Lab research	
	recognized University.	(genetics)	
	Age: up to 24 years		

^ Desirable qualifications are only indicative in nature. In case of exceptionally good candidates, these may be relaxed.

* Placement will be at any of the three levels based on experience. Candidates with relevant experience and who have submitted Ph.D thesis and are awaiting results may also be considered, and if found suitable may be given a provisional PA position till the results are communicated.

Age relaxation up to 5 years will be applicable for SC/ST/OBC and Women candidates.

Description of Work:

Project Associate:

The position involves large scale climate modelling, looking into climatic and anthropogenic drivers of landscape; undertake hydrological modelling involving quantity and quality of water resources for biodiversity and socioeconomic attributes and contribute to stream ecology; and investigate impacts of climate change and anthropogenic pressures on aquatic species and their habitats in the Himalaya. The candidate is also expected to assist the nodal scientist in report preparation, organization of workshops and disseminating knowledge to relevant stake holders.

Project Fellow:

The position involves baseline data (primary/secondary) collection on natural resource use and socio-economic parameters; undertake intensive research on human-wildlife interface issues, ecosystem services, and provide assistance in creation of spatial database and scenario building for ecological parameters with respect to climatic variables.

Project Assistant:

The position involves baseline data collection on flora, fauna (insect fauna in particular) and socioeconomic parameters; undertake intensive research on species-habitat relationships, provide assistance in creation of spatial database and scenario building for ecological parameters with respect to climatic variables; and assessment of anthropogenic drivers; socioeconomic survey and collection of secondary data.

Recruitment process

The selection of Project Associate and Project Assistants will be through a written test followed by a personal interview.

(i) Candidates should send their applications in the prescribed proforma (Annexure 1) typed out on A-4 size paper (210 x 297 mm) accompanied by crossed Indian Postal Order/Bank Draft of Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred only) drawn in favour of the Director, Wildlife Institute of India, payable at Dehradun. Fee is non-refundable. The application form can also be downloaded from the site <u>www.wii.gov.in</u>. Candidates must mention the Project name and Position applied for in their applications. Candidates who are applying for multiple projects and/or positions should send separate applications and fees.

Applications should be accompanied by self-attested copies of certificates of age, educational qualifications, and experience. Shortlisted candidates will have to produce original certificates cited in their applications at the time of written test / interview, without which they will be disqualified. Applications should be sent to the Administrative Officer, Wildlife Institute of India, Chandrabani, Dehradun–248 001 (Uttarakhand) so as to reach on or before 8 August 2016 by 17:00 hours. Applications from abroad and from those in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, North Eastern Region, Ladakh division of the Jammu & Kashmir State, Sikkim, Panaji Sub-division of Chamba, Lahaul & Spiti Districts of Himachal Pradesh should reach up to 16 August 2016 by 17:00 hours.

Applications may be sent through Registered post/Speed post/By Hand in a cover. Candidates must **mention the project name, and position applied for on the envelope** of their applications. Candidates who are applying for multiple projects and/or positions should send separate applications and fees.

(ii) The Institute shall screen the applications received by due date and organize a written test for short-listing the candidates to be called for the interview. The list of eligible candidates will be hosted on the Institute's website (<u>www.wii.gov.in</u>) on **19 August 2016.**

Applications received after the due date, without the application fee, incomplete, or not in prescribed format will be rejected. Mere fulfilment of the minimum advertised qualification and experience requirement DOES NOT automatically entitle an applicant to be called for written test / interview. The decision of the Institute in all matters relating to eligibility, acceptance or rejection of application, mode of selection will be final and binding on the candidates and no enquiry or correspondence will be entertained from any individual or his / her agency. At the time of the verification of original documents, if it is found that an attempt has been made by the applicant to wilfully conceal, misrepresent or canvass the facts, his / her candidature will not be considered and he / she will not be allowed to appear for the interview. Candidates are required to furnish the declaration form as given in the prescribed application form.

(iii) Eligible candidates have to report at the Auditorium located inside the Institute campus at Dehradun on 29 August, 2016 at 09:30 hours with their original documents / certificates for verification. Eligible candidates have to appear for written test on the same day (29.08.2016) from 1030 hours onwards in the Auditorium. Separate examinations will be organized for the project positions, between 10:30 – 11:30 hours for Project Associate, 12:00 – 13:00 hours for Project Fellow, and 15:00 – 16:00 hours for Project Assistant. The examination will be of one hour duration with 60 objective type questions of one mark each. There will be thirty questions covering wildlife ecology and management, and thirty questions on the subject domain of respective posts as specified in the Syllabus (Annexure 2).

Candidates who have a valid CSIR/UGC NET Junior Research Fellowship or WII-NET (cleared in 2014 & 2015) are exempted from the written test and will have to appear for the interview only. For WII-NET qualified candidates, their scores will be used to short-list candidates for the interview.

(iv) Results of the written test shall be declared on **30 August 2016** at **09:30 hours** in the Institute's website (<u>www.wii.gov.in</u>). The short-listed candidates have to appear for a personal interview **on 30 August from 10:30 hours onwards** in the Institute's Board Room and may continue until **31 August 2016**. The final selection of the candidate will be in accordance with his / her performance in the written test and interview and in order of merit as decided by the Interview Committee.

(v) If a candidate is applying for more than one position, separate applications have to be submitted for every post applied for and sent along with the application fee.

Annexure-1

PROFORMA FOR APPLICATION (Project Scientist, Project Associate & Project Fellow Positions)

1. Advertisement No:

- 2. Post Applied for:
- 3. Application fee details:

4. Category: SC/ST/OBC/UR (please attach certificate, SC/ST/OBC)

5. Name (in block letters):

Last Name: Middle Name: First Name:

6. Father's /Husband's Name:

7. Permanent Address:

8. Address for correspondence:

Pincode: Tel. No. & Fax No. with STD Code: E- mail : Mobile :

9. Nearest Railway Station:

10. Date of Birth (Date/Month/Year): (please attach certificate)

11. Age as on **08 August 2016** (in Years, Months and Days)

12. Educational Qualifications starting with Higher Secondary (10+2):

Exams passed	Name of the Board/ University	Year of passing	Subjects	Division	Percentage of marks obtained	Enclosed annexure No.

Space for photograph duly signed by the candidate 13. If Ph.D., mention the following:

- i. Title of thesis:
- ii. University:
- iii. Name of Supervisor(s):
- iv. Year of award of the degree: (please attach copy of doctorate degree)
- v. (v) Summary (maximum 2 pages):
- 17. Secondary and Tertiary skills, if any

18. Number and details of papers published(copies of up to 5 best publications must be attached)

19. Number of books published (Attach list)

20. Total experience as on 08 August 2016 in years and months

(a) After M.Sc : (b) After Ph.D :

21. Employment details (Chronologically from present position backwards)

Name of the	Full Address of	Post held	Period	Total	Nature of
Employer/	Employer/Organization	(with pay	From* -	emoluments	duties/
Organization		scale)	To*	drawn (Rs.)	experience

* Specify Month and Year

22. References: (Name and Designation along with contact address details including fax, email and mobile)

(i)

(ii)

(iii)

23. Any other relevant information:

DECLARATION

I affirm that information given in this application is true and correct. I also fully understand that if at any stage it is found that any attempt has been made by me to wilfully conceal or misrepresent the facts, my candidature may summarily be rejected and employment terminated.

PLACE : DATE : (SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT)

Annexure 2: Written test syllabus

Wildlife Ecology and Management (30 marks)

Basic concepts of ecosystem, evolution, community ecology and bio-statistics. Biogeography of India. Himalayan ecosystems, flora, fauna, habitats, conservation and management issues. Demography, population dynamics and meta-population concepts.

Management of small and insular populations. Role of protected areas in biodiversity conservation. Application of tools in wildlife management: conservation genetics (Small and declining population paradigms: inbreeding depression & bottleneck etc), Population and Habitat Viability Analysis, Remote Sensing & GIS.

In situ and *ex situ* conservation. Major species specific conservation programs (e.g.: Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Project Snow Leopard etc). Human wildlife interactions and their impacts (e.g.: Developental projects, conflict).

Basic concepts of ecodevelopment, compensatory mechanisms for losses due to wildlife, peoples participation. Legal instruments for conservation: Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972; Biodiversity Act, 2002; Indian Forest Act, 1927; Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; and Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986. International agreements and conventions (CITES, CMS, CBD and Ramsar).

Subject domains of respective posts (30 Marks)

For Project Associate: Himalayan biodiversity, Anthropogenic pressures on wildlife habitats in the Himalayan region; conservation and management of ecosystems; Impact of climate change on ecosystem structure and functioning; long-term ecological monitoring.

For Project Fellow: Biogeography of the Himalaya, natural resource use by local communities, socio-economic surveys, climate change/variability, ecosystem services, conservation and management of natural resources of the Himalaya.

For Project Assistant: Himalayan flora, fauna, Himalayan vegetation, socio-economic surveys, human-wildlife interface issues, anthropogenic pressures on wildlife habitats in the Himalayan region