

Postdoctoral position in spatial ecology or quantitative geography

The University of Bordeaux (France) is recruiting a postdoctoral researcher to work within a multidisciplinary project looking at relationships between human activities and ecosystem responses, viewed in terms of functional biodiversity. The postdoc will mostly interact with members of the Integrative and [Theoretical Ecology chair](#) (mainly L. Carassou), which has ongoing collaborations with many other institutions and partners of the Labex COTE (CNRS, INRA, IFREMER, IRSTEA, University of Bordeaux – <http://cote.labex.u-bordeaux.fr/en/>).

The goal of the project is to improve our understanding of how ecosystem functions and services supported by biodiversity respond to changes in the nature and intensity of human impacts at various spatial scales, from ecosystem to regional level, in the areas of the Gironde estuary, Arcachon Bay and their watersheds. We focus on wetlands as representative of transition ecosystems combining multiple human uses and high natural biodiversity.

Biodiversity is defined here through a 'functional ecology' perspective, i.e., species filling a particular niche with a given set of traits and across multiple taxa. Prioritized biological groups include birds, fish and insects. The definition of pertinent diversity indices will favor multiple taxa but other options may be possible depending on the candidate interest and data availability.

Investigations on the human impacts will be based on innovative approaches from economics (collaboration with Gretha : Research Group on Applied and Theoretical Economics) and social sciences (collaboration with IRSTEA : Institute of Scientific and Technical Research on Environment and Agriculture).

The core of the proposed work relies on the coupling between ecological and socio-economic data, based on mapping and spatial statistics. Therefore, we are looking for candidates with a strong background in quantitative geography or spatial ecology, able to work in a multidisciplinary context, and skilled in applied spatial modelling techniques (i.e., GIS, spatial statistics). The candidate is also expected to contribute to the gathering of land-use information. The ability to communicate in English in a professional context is required. Proficiency in french is a plus.

The position is funded for two years by Labex COTE. Applicants should send a cover letter describing their interest in the position, a curriculum vitae, and name and contact information of three references to manager-labexcote@u-bordeaux.fr by April 1, 2016.

For additional information on the research project, contact: laure.carassou@u-bordeaux.fr

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Laure_Carassou

<http://scholar.google.fr/citations?user=StPBuMEAAAAJ&hl=fr>

For additional information regarding the application procedure and employment conditions, contact manager-labexcote@u-bordeaux.fr