

From: Jamey Furlaud
Subject: PhD Opportunity: Understanding the nexus between fire mosaics and kangaroos

A PhD Scholarship is available at the University of Tasmania, the Scholarship will include both tuition coverage and a living stipend.

Managing fire regimes is essential for the maintenance of productive and biodiverse ecosystems. There is increasing evidence that the abundance and health of large herbivores such as kangaroos are sensitive to the frequency and spatial pattern of fires.

In this study we aim to understand how current fire regimes on two Bush Heritage Australia properties in Queensland, Carnarvon Station and Yourka, are affecting kangaroo populations. The project will use a variety of methodologies including geographic information system analysis, ecological survey, and camera trapping, to provide a historic and geographic context for fire activity and kangaroo abundance. Field experiments will determine how fire activity affects kangaroo forage available and kangaroo abundance. The project requires the applicants to have a high level of competency in remote area field situations and a capacity to work in a team environment.

The Ph.D. research project also includes substantial operational funds and logistical support, funded by an Australian Research Council Linkage Grant. An additional top-up award of \$5,000 pa will also be considered for outstanding applicants.

The scholarship is open to Australian (domestic) candidates and to International candidates. The PhD must be undertaken on a full-time basis. Applicants must already have been awarded a first class Honours degree or hold equivalent qualifications (such as a Master's degree) or relevant and substantial research experience in an appropriate sector. Applicants must be able to demonstrate strong research and analytical skills. Candidates from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Please contact Professor David Bowman, Professor of Environmental Change Biology, School of Biological Sciences, University of Tasmania for more information.

email: david.bowman@utas.edu.au
phone: +61 428894500

More information about the position is below:

<http://www.utas.edu.au/research/degrees/available-phd-projects/phd-projects/faculty-of-science-engineering-and-technology/biological-sciences/understanding-the-nexus-between-fire-mosaics-and-kangaroos>