

Environmental Education Research Team at Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland is looking for a PhD student (Please see below for the full description of the project) (link <http://www.wb.uj.edu.pl/studia/phd-biology/recruitment>)

Marianna Strzelecka, PhD.

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The information on the recruitment criteria and required documents are available in the [Online Application System](#).

The deadline for sending applications: 4th July 2018

Date of the interviews: 16th July 2018

Topic:

## **IES – 15: River restoration in ecosystem services perspective – analysis of contribution of restored rivers to tourism and well-being of local communities**

**Name of supervisor:** Prof. Małgorzata Grodzińska-Jurczak (Environmental Education Research Team, Institute of Environmental Sciences)

**Background information:** While the impact of river restoration projects on biodiversity and its ecological importance are well recognized, revitalization effects and potential trade-offs from the perspective of various stakeholders has gotten less attention. Such an interdisciplinary challenge requires consideration of both ecological and social aspects (Brown et al., 2018). Ecosystem services (ES) framework has been successfully applied to interdisciplinary studies on various dependencies between human societies and nature and benefits that people derive from nature (Isbell et al. 2017). Recent theoretical developments reframe the “benefit” approach into the concept of nature’s contribution to people (NCP) emphasizing the role of culture in people-nature relations (Díaz, et al. 2018). In this study, the theoretical perspectives of ES and NCP will be used to study river restoration projects, to assess their ecological and social effect on human societies. A special attention will be given to local communities and tourists. It will contribute to the current, wider debate in conservation science of the role of ecosystem restoration, benefits and trade-offs of such approaches for human societies. It will also engage in the rewilding debate in Europe, as a potentially attractive new paradigm in conservation science and practice (Lorimer 2015).

**The main questions to be addressed in the project:** How river restoration affect perception and availability of ES and NCP, in local residents and tourists?

**Information on the methods/description of work:** The project will utilize a mixed-mode interdisciplinary approach with qualitative and quantitative methods. The project provides opportunity for international comparisons between Polish and Swedish case studies.

**Special requirements from the student:** A potential candidate should possess knowledge and experience in designing and conducting interdisciplinary research and working in interdisciplinary research teams. Oral skills in Polish and excellent written and oral skills in English languages are a requirement.

**Name of potential foreign collaborator:** Marianna Strzelecka, PhD, Linnaeus University.

### **References**

Brown AG, Lespez L, Sear DA, Macaire J-, Houben P, Klimek K, et al. 2018. Natural vs anthropogenic streams in Europe: History, ecology and implications for restoration, river-rewilding and riverine ecosystem services. *Earth Sciences Review* 180:185-205.

Díaz S., Pascual U., Stenseke M., Martín-López B., Watson R.T., Molnár Z., Hill R. et al. 2018. Assessing nature's contributions to people. *Science* 19(359)270-272.

Isbell F., Gonzalez A., Loreau M., Cowles J., Díaz S., Hector A., Mace G.M., Wardle D.A., O'Connor M.I., Duffy J.E., Turnbull L.A., Thompson P.L., Larigauderie A. 2017. Linking the influence and dependence of people on biodiversity across scales. *Nature* 546: 65–72.

Lorimer J., Sandom C., Jepson P., Doughty C., Barua M., Kirby K.J. 2015. Rewilding: Science, Practice, and Politics. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 40:39-62.

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