



# BIOLOGY CENTRE CAS

## Institute of Entomology

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### PhD position: Biodiversity of European woodlands in the time of changes

The PhD student will become a part of an international research team and participate on studies investigating the impact of disturbances connected to climate change (wildfires, droughts, tornadoes), globalisation (alien organisms), and management changes on biota of European forests. The studies use multi-taxa approach (with focus on insects) to answer specific questions on several trophic and functional levels:

- (1) What is the response of communities to a wildfire in mixed forests of a protected area?
- (2) What is the impact of recent severe droughts and decline of dominant tree species on biodiversity in lowland forests?
- (3) What will be the effect of experimental removal of a dominant alien tree species?

The research is tightly connected to **conservation management planning** and to **forest management to enhance the biodiversity** in both protected and unprotected landscapes. The student will participate on fieldwork, perform data analysis and paper writing. They will obtain training in various aspects of woodland ecology and conservation, as well as in various methods of community ecology (including metabarcoding) and advanced statistical modelling.

#### The applicant should have following qualifications:

- Master's degree in biology or related fields (must be awarded prior to the starting date)
- Will to learn, ability to work in a team as well as individually, passion for fieldwork and/or insects
- Basic knowledge of statistical analysis
- Good communication skills in English
- Driving licence B

The student will enrol into PhD programme (4 years) at the Faculty of Science, University of South Bohemia, <https://www.prf.jcu.cz/en>, and become a member of a progressive, well-established research team at the Institute of Entomology, Biology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences, <https://www.entu.cas.cz/en/> (Laboratory of Woodland Ecology lead by Dr. Lukáš Čížek, <https://www.oldtree.cz/>).

The PhD student will get research grant salary (50%, Biology Centre CAS) combined with student stipends (50%, University of South Bohemia), together comfortably covering living expenses in the Czech Republic.

The research facility is situated in České Budějovice, South Bohemia, Czech Republic, a historical city of about 100,000 inhabitants, within easy reach from Prague and Vienna. Laboratory of Woodland Ecology is a part of the Department of Biodiversity and Conservation Biology, Institute of Entomology (head: Prof.

Vojtěch Novotný) produces highly competitive research in different fields of insect science all over the world, including temperate and tropical research, community ecology, molecular ecology and practical conservation. The environment is diverse, international and welcoming.

Biology Centre ([see the employment policy](#)) holds the HR Excellence in Research Award. The selection process is transparent, open, non-discriminating, and fair. [Gender equality plan](#) has been accepted in 2022.

Please, send your application by e-mail to Pavel Šebek: [pav.sebek@gmail.com](mailto:pav.sebek@gmail.com). Application must be written in English and include the following documents as a PDF file:

- **Cover letter**, stating your motivation, how your background and skills fit the project (max. 2 pages).
- **CV**, including contact details of two references who are familiar with your work.

Applications will be received until the position is filled. Initial deadline is **15 December 2023**. The top ranked candidates will be selected for an interview in English via video-call. The starting date of the work is upon agreement, but the successful applicant is expected to start in February 2024.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us via e-mail.

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