

MacARTHUR AGRO-ECOLOGY RESEARCH CENTER
ASSISTANT RESEARCH BIOLOGIST AND DIRECTOR POSITION AVAILABLE

Applications are sought for an Assistant Research Biologist to conduct ecological research and to serve as Director of the MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center (MAERC), a division of Archbold Expeditions (which also operates Archbold Biological Station). Archbold Expeditions is an independent, non-profit research institute devoted to long-term ecological research, education, and conservation in central Florida. MAERC, established in 1988, is located at a 4,200 ha full-scale commercial cattle ranch, that encompasses varied pastures, prairies, woodland hammocks and wetlands. The ongoing agro-ecology research program emphasizes the relationships between cattle and other operations and the native ecosystem of south Florida, including effects on wetland ecology, ecosystem services, and species distributions and interactions. The MAERC Director provides leadership and coordination for this novel interdisciplinary program examining the interface between ecological integrity and economic viability in a working agricultural landscape. MAERC conducts collaborative research with staff from Archbold Biological Station, and other research institutions including University of Florida and University of Central Florida, state agencies such as South Florida Water Management District, and agricultural producer organizations notably the Florida Cattlemen's Association.

The Research Biologist will be expected to oversee ongoing research and establish a personal research program in areas that might include: (1) nutrient dynamics within and among plant and animal communities, soils, groundwater or surface waters; (2) relationships between hydrology and ecological processes and communities; (3) sustaining ecosystem services in grazing lands (4) impacts of climate change and variability, invasive species, and land use conversion on ecological processes. The successful candidate should be able to: (1) capitalize on extensive MAERC data on ecological communities, wetlands and water quality; (2) collaborate with ongoing interdisciplinary research in hydrological modeling, wetland ecology, ranch economics, and wildlife monitoring; (3) be able to work at different spatial scales ranging from the field, to the farm, to a regional landscape, and (4), as Director, administer the research program, coordinate interdisciplinary research projects with outside investigators, supervise current research staff, participate in outreach and education activities, and work closely with the Ranch Manager staff to integrate research and ranch operations. We are looking for a team player, enthusiastic about living and conducting research at a cattle ranch, and able to communicate successfully with scientists, regulatory agencies, environmental organizations, and ranchers.

Research facilities at MAERC include a basic chemistry lab for water quality and nutrient analysis, a field lab, office with LAN computer network, meteorological stations and hydrological sensor network. Archbold Biological Station provides MAERC with administrative support, an excellent library, computer networks, and outstanding GIS lab. Ph.D. and Postdoctoral or other experience is required as well as demonstrated ability to seek extramural research funding. Experience working in agricultural landscapes a plus. 10-month salary commensurate with experience at Assistant Professor level. Full benefits, generous leave and housing. Applicants should submit curriculum vitae, letter of interest, and name, address, phone and email of three references by August 6, 2010 to ensure full consideration. Send application materials via email to execassistant@archbold-station.org. General enquiries to Sharon Hawkins (863) 465-2571 or

shawkins@archbold-station.org. For additional information about the position contact Hilary Swain (863) 465-2571. Archbold is an Equal Opportunity Employer.