

## **PhD position: Understanding the implications of changes in protected area networks on their performance.**

A PhD position is available to work with Dr Carly Cook and Associate Professor Melodie McGeoch at Monash University (School of Biological Sciences) in Australia. We are looking for a highly motivated candidate with research interests in ecology and conservation to undertake a project investigating the how changes in the characteristics of protected area networks influence their ability to conserve biodiversity.

Candidates with experience managing large datasets and highly developed skills in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) are encouraged to apply. The starting date can be any time during the first half of 2016.

The Cook research group is interested in a range of topics related to the use of evidence in environmental decisions. To find out more please visit: [www.carlycookresearch.wordpress.com](http://www.carlycookresearch.wordpress.com)

The McGeoch research group are interested in spatial ecology and a broad range of conservation-relevant ecological questions.

### Scholarship details:

The PhD stipend is fully-funded for a period of 3.5 years and is open to both Australian/NZ domestic and international students. The stipends include all course fees plus approximately \$25,000 AUD per annum tax-free. Domestic students will be encouraged to apply for an Australian Postgraduate Award, with a top-up scholarship awarded to successful recipients (tax-free 2013 rate of approximately \$25,000 AUD, top up of \$5000).

### Monash and the School of Biological Sciences:

Monash is a member of the Group of Eight, a coalition of top Australian universities recognized for their excellence in teaching and research. The School of Biological Sciences is a dynamic unit with strengths in both ecology and genetics and the nexus between these disciplines ([monash.edu/science/about/schools/biological-sciences/](http://monash.edu/science/about/schools/biological-sciences/)). The University is located in Melbourne, one of the most liveable cities in the world and a cultural and recreational hub.

### Application process:

Interested candidates should send their CV and academic transcript, along with a cover letter outlining their research interests and motivation, their skills in relation to data management and manipulation (particularly using GIS) to [carly.cook@monash.edu](mailto:carly.cook@monash.edu). Applicants must possess a Bachelor's or equivalent degree with first-class Honours, Master of Science or MPhil. Short-listed candidates will be asked for further information and will be interviewed.

