The Biodiversity Conservation Research Group seeks at the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig to fill the following position at from 01 September 2023 onwards:

**Student/Research assistant (f/m/d)**

Data support for project: ‘A spatial framework to assess cultural and intrinsic values of Nature in conservation planning and scenarios’

- Work volume: 40 to 65hrs/month
- Duration: 3 up to 5 months, depending on your availability and number of hours per week
- Salary: depending on your personal profile (12,00 EUR up to 13,11 EUR brutto / hour)

Place of work: iDiv in Leipzig

**Background:**

This project aims to combine large-scale biodiversity data for Europe with data on the value of nature to people. The research involves developing spatially explicit models for understanding socio-ecological restoration potential in 12 European countries. The project is supervised by Dr. Nestor Fernandez (Biodiversity Conservation group) and Dr. Marek Giergiczny (postdoctoral researcher). The Student/Research assistant will help managing spatial data on species, habitats, and people’s preferences during nature recreation visits, using geographic information systems.

**Job description:**

- Curation and of spatial data from the recreational use surveys and preparation of spatial databases.
- Literature searches and basic data analyses
- Support the research group in activities related to the research such as organization of meetings, contact with stakeholders and project partners, etc.
- You will be fully integrated into the research activities of our working group. We also welcome students interested in carrying out their BSc/MSc thesis in our lab.

**Requirements / expected profile:**

- You are a BSc or MSc student in a related research discipline (e.g. biology, ecology, geography, forestry, environmental sciences, environmental resource management, etc.).
- We seek candidates who are highly motivated to contribute to a large database compilation effort. This requires attention to detail, tenacity, as well as excellent organizational and time-management skills.
- Strong skills in communicating professionally are required. Good English language skills are a prerequisite
- Prior experience in ‘R’ or another programming language and experience in GIS (e.g. QGIS) would be beneficial, but not a prerequisite.
You will be employed as student/research assistant via the Martin-Luther-University Halle Wittenberg. We offer you the opportunity to carry out your BSc or MSc thesis project in our group (joint supervision with faculty from UL, MLU, UFZ, or the university where you are enrolled as a student is possible).

The preferred starting date is **01 September 2023** or shortly thereafter. **Applications are accepted until the position is filled.**

**Applications should include:**
- brief cover letter describing motivation, research interests & relevant experience
- tabular curriculum vitae, incl. a detailed account of relevant technical/other skills and prior experience
- if applicable, access to one of your recent projects relevant for this position (e.g. paper, GitHub repository)
- if applicable, digital copy of BA certificate (or equivalent)

Applications should be directed to Dr. Marek Giergiczny (marek.giergiczny@idiv.de) in a single PDF file with reference “**HIWI Recreation** ” in the subject line.

Severely disabled persons are encouraged to apply and will be given preference in the case of equal suitability. Please note that applying via email is not entirely secure under data protection law. The sender assumes full responsibility.

iDiv is committed to establishing and maintaining a diverse and inclusive community that collectively supports and implements our mission to do great science. We will welcome, recruit, develop, and advance talented staff from diverse genders and backgrounds.

---

The **German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv)** is a DFG National Research Centre located in Leipzig and jointly hosted by the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), the Friedrich Schiller University Jena (FSU), the Leipzig University (UL) and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ). Its central mission is to promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory in the emerging field of Biodiversity Science. The concept of iDiv encompasses the detection of biodiversity, understanding its emergence, exploring its consequences for ecosystem functions and services, and developing strategies to safeguard biodiversity under global change. More information: [www.idiv.de](http://www.idiv.de).