

Ecologist

About Us

We're a fast-growing tech company headquartered in Edinburgh. We are on a mission to enable zero deforestation and degradation, and support mass forest restoration. We do this by producing the highest quality nature mapping data products, and passing these to clients with high quality custom analysis and advice.

Our clients include major international companies (e.g. Apple), expert consultancies (e.g. The Biodiversity Consultancy), major NGOs (e.g. WCS and TNC), funders/sellers of carbon credits (e.g. Everland), and forest carbon project developers across the tropics.

All of our work is based on extensive scientific research with our expert science and technology team including 12 with PhDs in ecology or satellite science, and world-class AI and software engineers.

Role Overview

This position is part of our Science team. The key focus of this role is to provide sound ecological advice to the science team, and to analyse environmental data and forest biomass and habitat map outputs. This will be done working as part of small interdisciplinary teams (pods) in a fast-paced environment.

Main responsibilities:

- Work as part of a team (pod) to provide sound ecological advice to ensure processes used in the production of forest biomass and habitat maps are reasonable from an ecological perspective. Specifically:
 - Create of area reviews for each project, including forest definitions, climatology, vegetation classes, deforestation drivers, etc
- Contribute and support the technical team to develop forest biomass and habitat maps. This includes:
 - Identify and analyse existing forest plot datasets
 - Clean, process and analyse field plot data using R or python to calculate biomass
 - Identify allometric equations to be used in specific projects
 - Create sampling polygons for habitat maps
 - Review land cover and carbon maps
 - Critically analyse results, identify problems

- Creation of maps and visualisations
 - Lead on the creation of SOPs for forest inventory
 - Lead on the development and implementation of solutions to improve accuracy of carbon and habitat maps
- Lead on the creation of ecological databases, including for allometric equations, growth rates, field plot data
 - Contribute to the generation of reports, via summarising map data in an interpretable format and presenting map outputs in publishable quality (graphs and maps)
 - Report to the pod lead, both general progress as well as possible areas of concern or of opportunity

Additional responsibilities:

- Use ecological knowledge to find solutions to bespoke problems
- [Occasionally] collaborate with the technical team to produce and maintain code, specifically regarding the analysis of plot data. Contribute to the development of data analysis methods through such projects
- [Occasionally] collaborate with the Research team to participate in R&D projects.
- Contribute to white papers, scientific publications and/or blog posts

Profile/Experience

Education

- Bachelor's degree in Ecology, Geography, Environmental Science or related discipline, with a 2:1 or higher, or equivalent work experience
- MSc or equivalent experience [e.g. ~2 years gaining experience as a Graduate ecologist]

Attributes

- Scientific mindset – you're able to create hypotheses and experiments to test them, as well as recording and sharing your findings in a concise manner.
- An understanding of applied ecology, particularly in the tropics
- Effective and enjoy working in a team, while also being self-motivated and directed
- Flexible, and excited to adapt to the needs of a growing business
- Enjoy working in a fast-paced environment, effective at prioritising long-term important and short-term urgent tasks
- Ability to communicate effectively and clearly
- Be results-oriented, and able to focus on key tasks required to support the

strategic objectives of the company

- An interest working in a mission focussed company addressing climate change and biodiversity loss

Skills

- Comfortable using Google Suite software (Gmail, Calendar, GDocs, Gsheets etc)
- Experience with GIS software (e.g. QGIS)
- Knowledge of the theory of satellite remote sensing and spatial data analysis
- Knowledge of R and/or Python
- Knowledge of / analysis experience with datasets pertaining to forest ecosystems and/or land surface processes.
- Experience conducting ecological fieldwork, including vegetation and biodiversity field techniques (desirable)

General background and interests

- Interest in the creation of data and methodologies which assist in the protection of global forest resources

Requirements

- Willing to give presentations inside the company to share your knowledge or report on the status of current work for a client/a project, and outside, attend networking events, communicate with clients.

What if you don't meet our spec 100% ?

There is no such thing as the perfect CV, or someone that checks every box. We need people to be able to do the job but also look at potential. So, we encourage you to apply even if your experience doesn't exactly match this job description but it would make you excited to come to work each day. You can address the gaps, and more, in your cover letter, if you wish.

Working for Space Intelligence

At Space Intelligence, we offer a competitive salary, 33 holiday days per year, an extra day off for your birthday, a good pension plan offering salary sacrifice for tax efficiency, an Employee Savings on Purchases Platform and an Employee Assistance Programme, as well as other benefits. We have a friendly, fun and supportive workplace, and we strongly value work-life balance. We are emphatically not a company with a long-hours culture, and we are family-friendly and support working flexible and part-time. We also schedule a range of events including lunches, escape rooms, pub trips, crazy golf, bowling and much more. In addition, we do company and team away days.



We are, proudly, a diverse, multicultural team: with almost as many women as men (unusual in a tech/science company) and our employees come from 11 different countries.

Where will I work?

We are looking for a candidate who will be based in our office on George Street, Edinburgh. Most of our team are in the office most days, and we feel you will learn fastest if you are in the office most days too. However, we support hybrid working and would be happy for you to work 1-2 days a week from home.

Please note, at the start date, you must have the right to work in the UK and we currently don't sponsor work visas.

Salary

Starting salary £23,400 - £25,000 placing depends on experience/qualifications. Pro rata, if part time.

Adjustments (because we are not all the same)

We are committed to offering opportunities for all and we recognise that some people may need adjustments in order to participate fairly in our hiring process. If you require an adjustment (we have done this for others), please contact Helen, our Head of People and Culture (helen.scott@space-intelligence.com). Helen knows from first hand experience the importance of levelling the playing field and will do all she can to make your experience a positive one. This can include adjustments before submitting your CV, guaranteed in-person interviews (if virtual isn't your thing) and seeing the interview questions in advance. Please just ask.

How to apply

Please send your CV and a cover letter explaining why you're particularly suited for this role to careers@space-intelligence.com. Please include your name in the title of any attached documents.

Closing date: Monday 20th May 2024 @ 5 pm.