



NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY
YUNIBESITI YA BOKONE-BOPHIRIMA
NOORDWES-UNIVERSITEIT
POTCHEFSTROOM CAMPUS

North-West University Water Research Group,
Unit for Environmental Sciences and Management
Invites applications for the position of
Research Internship
(eDNA)

The **North-West University Water Research Group (NWU-WRG)**, Unit for Environmental Sciences and Management based on the Potchefstroom Campus of the NWU is a world-renowned group of researchers that focuses on the study of aquatic biology and environmental toxicology with research programs in Environmental and Ecological Parasitology, Aquatic Ecotoxicology and Aquatic Ecology (<http://natural-sciences.nwu.ac.za/WRG>). This position is a six-month research internship contract funded through a Water Research Commission (WRC) project entitled: "**Development of an eDNA approach as a novel technique for the early detection of aquatic fungal disease-causing agents**". The internship carries a value of R54 000 for the six months. The internship commences in September 2021 (or as soon as possible afterwards). The selected applicant will be based with our collaborators on the project in **Sea Point, Cape Town**.

Key responsibilities:

- Assist in the development of a sampling assay to sample environmental DNA from water
- Responsible for running laboratory-based experiments
- Optimise the newly designed sampling assay
- Data analyses
- Report to Project leader and other senior researchers involved in the Project
- Present data
- Assist in field sampling

Minimum criteria:

- Master's degree in microbiology/biochemistry or similar.
- Experience with PCR and Real-time PCR.
- Interest and the understanding of the development of diagnostic/ detection tests.
- Strong scientific written and oral communication skills
- Ability to work independently.
- Driver's License.

Desirable criteria:

- Interest in eDNA with a strong proficiency in molecular analysis and bioinformatics.
- Experience in sampling environmental DNA from water samples
- Attention to detail.

Applications and enquiries:

If you are interested in applying please submit the following documentation:

- A letter of motivation, detailing your relevant experience and research interests, current research activities as well as your interest in this project;
- latest academic transcript;
- a Curriculum Vitae including the names and contact details of at least two references

to Dr. Mariska Laubscher (mariskalaubs@gmail.com)

The NWU-WRG reserves the right not to appoint any applicants to this position as advertised. Final appointments are dependent on approval by North-West University.