



**Researcher in Ecology of Continental  
and Transition Waters  
for the  
MARINE AND CONTINENTAL  
WATERS Program**

**IRTA** is a research institute owned by the Government of Catalonia ascribed to the Department of Agriculture and Livestock. It is regulated by Law 04/2009, passed by the Catalan Parliament on 15 April 2009, and it is ruled by private regulations. IRTA is one of the CERCA centres of excellence of the Catalan Research System.

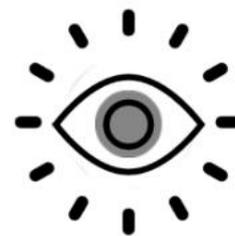
**IRTA**'s purpose is to contribute to the modernization, competitiveness and sustainable development of agriculture, food and aquaculture sectors, the supply of healthy and quality foods for consumers and, generally, improving the welfare and prosperity of the society.

## MISSION



Contribute to the modernization, competitiveness and sustainable development of the agrarian, food and aquaculture sectors, to the provision of healthy and quality food for consumers and, in general, to improve the welfare of the population.

## VISION



Become a scientific reference, an engine of innovation and technology transfer. We want to be the strategic ally of the agri-food sector.

## VALUES



1. Commitment
2. Creativity
3. Learning
4. Innovation
5. Leadership
6. Respect
7. Vocation of service

## THE MARINE AND CONTINENTAL WATERS PROGRAM

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The **Marine and Continental Waters** program of IRTA is located in Sant Carles de la Ràpita and focuses research and conducts environmental monitoring of rivers, wetlands, estuaries and coastal areas. This program conducts research on the sustainable management of water resources, fishing and aquaculture resources and the interactions between agriculture and biodiversity, as well as the conservation of protected species and the restoration of natural areas. It also studies the effects of pollution, natural hazards including toxic phytoplankton, the intensive use of water, and invasive species. The program also focuses on the study of the impact of climate change on Mediterranean coastal and continental aquatic ecosystems, food safety, and, in particular, the effects of climate change and how we can adapt to it.

## ROLE PROFILE

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IRTA is currently seeking a **researcher to focus on the study of continental and transition waters** and specifically their link with the development of the agri-food production systems and the preservation of natural habitats. Present EU regulations require, among others, the development of environmental indicators to establish the quality of water bodies. Within this framework, IRTA is proposing a research position with the following characteristics.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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- To lead and execute research projects and contracts within the following fields: the ecology of continental waters, including lakes, reservoirs, wetlands and transition waters, aligned with the priorities of international research programs and priorities.
- To lead the contract between the Agència Catalana de l'Aigua and IRTA focusing on the monitoring the lower Ebre river and its delta and the development of environmental and ecological indicators, guiding the definition of environmental flow regimes.
- To get involved in the definition of future research strategies at IRTA related to these fields.
- To actively take part on the needs that the Generalitat de Catalunya may require in these fields.
- To promote relationships and communication with local stakeholders and the agricultural sector in order to identify opportunities and meet their requirements.

- To help positioning the Program as a group of excellence through regular peer-reviewed publications, contributions at national and international congresses and supervision of PhD and postdoctoral researchers.

## REQUIRED EXPERIENCE

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### Essential requirements:

- PhD in Biology, Ecology, Environmental Sciences or equivalent.
- Proven Post-doctoral experience in the research field of limnology, including international experience.
- A minimum of 5 years' experience in ecology of continental waters, with demonstrable knowledge on monitoring environmental and ecological aspects of ecosystems, ecology studies within transition and continental waters.
- Experience in writing project proposals.
- Proven experience in statistics and modelling to study water bodies and define environmental indicators.
- Dissemination skills: solid presentation/communication skills, scientific (peer-reviewed journals) and technical writing skills.
- Good level of English, both spoken and written. Catalan and Spanish will be valued.
- Full driving license for Europe and travelling availability.

### Desirable requirements:

- Acknowledgment of the Water Framework Directive and related legislation.
- Demonstrating an attractive publication record and participation in funded projects.
- Network of collaborators at a national and/or international level.
- Proven experience in technical and scientific initiatives, at an international level, and eventually national level.
- A proactive profile, solutions-focused approach to work, with ability to adapt to changing requirement.
- Capacity to perform high quality work and commitment.

### Personal profile:

- Strong organizational capability and ability to learn and successfully work within multidisciplinary teams.
- Teamwork skills and ability to establish and build relationships that will allow pursuing the objectives of the R&D activities.

- Willingness to organise and share information. Proactive in suggesting improvements.
- Flexibility and adaptation. To be able to prioritize tasks effectively. Capacity to anticipate, plan and write R+D projects, reports and technical documents.
- Receptive to challenges, ability to align the professional objectives and institutional priorities and strategy.

## **TERMS OF THE APPOINTMENT**

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This is a full-time position with the possibility of the successful candidate to be recruited as IRTA's permanent staff after a probationary period of one year. Gross salary will be commensurate with the qualifications and experience.

IRTA offers a rich environment for knowledge development and exchange where to develop a scientific career, and possibilities for professional promotion according to the attained achievements.

## **LOCATION: SANT CARLES DE LA RÀPITA**

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IRTA Sant Carles de la Ràpita is located in the south part of the Natural Park of Delta de l'Ebre. The centre avails of unique facilities including laboratories (713 m<sup>2</sup>): Nutrient analysis, Microalgal culture lab including walk-in chambers, Optical microscopy, Instrumental Analysis including LC-MS/MS and Gas chromatography, Biosensors lab, Biochemistry lab, Mammalian Cell lab, phytoplankton lab, Microbiology lab, Pathology

lab, Histology lab, Molecular Genetics lab, Computers for modelling, Sample processing vivarium for the farming of aquatic organisms: 1.200 sq. m, outdoors farming zone for aquatic organisms and nutrition tests: 2.500 sq. m. Labs (713 sq. m.), warehouse (740 sq. m.), field equipment, including multisensory probes and boats.

The closest town is Sant Carles de la Ràpita, and ideal place to enjoy the seaside as well as go for a hike in the mountains (Serra del Monstia and Parc Natural dels Ports). Furthermore, Sant Carles de la Ràpita is rich in traditions in which the townspeople participate actively. This associative vitality is very important and is reflected in a wide diversity of cultural activities. All the region is well known by the richness's of its gastronomy in particular seafood. Finally, our center is well connected with the main cities of Catalonia, 90 km from Tarragona and 180 km from Barcelona. The closest airport is in Reus (80 km) but major flights are available at Barcelona airport (170km) with a direct bus from Sant Carles de la Ràpita to Barcelona Airport.

## KEY STEPS IN THE SELECTION PROCESS

If you wish to be considered for this position, please, go to the link:

<http://www.irta.cat/en/work-at-irta/>

and register yourself. You should load your **CV in Adobe Acrobat pdf** format before the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2021. All information will be in the strictest confidence.

During the recruitment process, Human Resources Department will keep you informed on which step is your application.

Register to have full access to our job vacancy publications and future opportunities



Deadline timing job ref. 50/20 Researcher in Ecology of Continental and Transition Waters	
60 days	Publication and diffusion of the job advertisement on IRTA's website, EURAXESS Jobs, social networks and other specific recruitment places.
5 following working days	Distribution of the pre-selected CVs which match eligibility criteria to the Selection Committee. Communication via e-mail with the not pre-selected candidates who will not be further included in the process.
20 following working days	Selection Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communication via e-mail with the not-selected candidates by the Selection Committee.</li> <li>- Interview with selected candidates by the Selection Committee.</li> <li>- Accord of the Selection Committee stating the selected candidate and detailed reasoning for the decline of the rest of the candidates.</li> <li>- Communication via e-mail with the interviewed and not-selected candidates.</li> </ul>
5 following working days	Provision by the selected candidate of requested legal and official documentation to the HR department to coordinate the start of the candidate.
First trimester of 2021	Start of employment (approximately)