

At the Research- and Technology Centre West Coast (FTZ) of Kiel University, starting at the earliest possible date, the position is to be filled within ECOLAB in Büsum of a

Postdoctoral Researcher for “Zooplankton and Noise”

(wissenschaftliche/r Mitarbeiter*in, salary level TV-L E13)

The increase of anthropogenic underwater noise (AUN) through oil exploitation, shipping, and the construction and operation of offshore wind farms has altered the marine acoustic environment significantly and is now a global challenge. AUN can harm a variety of marine taxa by impairing an individual's physiology directly and by interfering with fitness-relevant behaviours such as communication, orientation, predator avoidance and foraging, all potentially leading to increased mortality and decreased reproduction. Benthic and planktonic invertebrates play a key role as a link between lower and higher trophic levels in the world's oceans. However, data on the effects of continuous AUN on these organisms are scarce, which impedes our predictive capabilities on the effects of AUN on ecosystem functioning and the services marine ecosystems provide.

The Project **ORCHESTRA** (ecOsystem Responses to Constant offsHorE Sound specTRA), funded within the framework of the JPI-Oceans joint action on Underwater Noise in the Marine Environment (<https://www.jpi-oceans.eu/en/underwater-noise-marine-environment>), will investigate the response of marine invertebrates to anthropogenic noise. The resulting data will be combined with information on local soundscapes and species abundances to identify in turn areas with the largest risks of being affected by AUN. Within this collaborative project, Kiel University will especially investigate the effects on AUN on zooplankton by conducting lab and field experiments on zooplankton.

Tasks and responsibilities:

- Coordinating and conducting laboratory experiments on AUN effects on behavior, physiology, fitness, and species interactions in aquatic invertebrates
- Planning and carrying out field experiments investigating effects of noise on selected planktonic invertebrates
- Analysis of the soundscapes of selected coastal seas
- Data analysis and writing of publications
- Support the project management, including coordination of experiments and field work
- Contribution to a literature review and meta-analysis on the effects of noise on aquatic invertebrates

Requirements:

- Ph.D. in Marine Sciences, Bioacoustics, Plankton Ecology, or other relevant subjects
- Strong affinity to experimental work, plankton, and/ or aquatic noise
- Experience with the analysis of large and complex datasets
- Experience with practical work on bioacoustics and/or plankton ecology in the field and laboratory is beneficial
- Fluency in English. Basic knowledge in German is beneficial
- Excellent social skills
- Capability to work in a cooperative, open, organized, flexible, creative, and pragmatic manner
- Strong ability to communicate science in publications, presentations, and to the general public

Kiel University aims at increasing the number of women in research and academic teaching and strongly encourages applications of accordingly qualified women. We promote gender equality. Women are given priority in cases of equal suitability, ability and professional performance. Kiel University has an equal opportunities policy for persons with recognized disabilities. Disabled persons with the necessary qualifications will therefore be given priority. Kiel University sees itself as a modern and cosmopolitan employer. We welcome your application regardless of age, gender, cultural and social origin, religion, ideology, disability or sexual identity. We expressly welcome applications from people with an immigrant background.

Interested candidates should send an application, including a cover letter, CV, references (the names and contact information of three referees). Please refrain from submitting application photos. In your publication list, indicate key papers which demonstrate your expertise for this position. Include also an academic statement (max. 3 pages) that outlines your research achievements and plans, and copies of degree certificates in a single PDF file (no larger than 2 MB) via email mentioning the subject header “**Orchestra**” to: heubel@ftz-west-uni-kiel.de.

Application deadline: January 20th 2023

This is a full-time position, limited until Dec 31 - 2025 subject to the approval of third-party funds. It is also suitable for part-time employment. The salary will be paid in accordance with the collective agreement for the public service positions in Germany (TV-L), salary according to E13 TV-L. The place of employment will be Büsum.

For further information, please get in contact with Dr. habil Katja Heubel: heubel@ftz-west-uni-kiel.de, FTZ West Coast of Kiel University, Hafentörn 1, D-25761 Büsum.