

Eawag, the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, is a Swiss-based and internationally networked aquatic research institute within the ETH domain (Swiss Federal Institute of Science and Technology). It is committed to the ecologically, economically and socially responsible management of water resources and aquatic ecosystems.

The Department of Surface Waters Research and Management (Surf) has a vacancy for a

PhD Student in Biogeochemistry

The offered PhD position is part of the PALEOFARM research project funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation: **“Paleolimnological tracers of early farming impacts on soil degradation and lakes”**. The PhD student will work in the Eawag Sedimentology group, based in Dübendorf.

Project summary: Landscape changes through clearing of forest and establishment of agriculture represent the largest human alteration of the environment. In this project, you will recover and analyze sediment cores from three lakes with contrasting histories of human occupation in their catchment. You will reconstruct historical and pre-historical changes in land-use using multiple proxies, with a focus on biomarkers. The key objective of this project will be to develop compound-specific radiocarbon as a tracer of changes in soil carbon cycling (and thus soil erosion) through time, with the evolution of agricultural practices.

We are looking for highly motivated candidates with a Master’s degree in geology, environmental sciences, chemistry or a related field. Fluency in English is mandatory and a strong background in organic geochemistry is an additional asset. The successful candidate will be enrolled as doctoral student in the Earth Sciences Department at ETH Zurich, one of the highest ranked Universities in Europe. Further information about the enrollment as PhD student at ETH Zurich is available at www.phd.ethz.ch.

The position will start on 1 September 2015. The initial duration of the position will be three years, with a possible extension of one additional year. The workplace is at Eawag Dübendorf. For further information please consult www.eawag.ch or contact Dr Nathalie Dubois nathalie.dubois@eawag.ch

Deadline for application is 1 June 2015. The position will remain open until a suitable candidate is selected. Women are explicitly encouraged to apply for this position with a view to increasing the proportion of women involved in science and research.

We look forward to receiving your application – including a CV, a brief statement about your motivation for this position, copies of academic qualification, abstract of Master thesis and contact information of two references – through this webpage, any other way of applying will not be considered. Please click on the link below, this will take you directly to the application form. <https://apply.refline.ch/673277/0355/pub/1/index.html>