

My CareerHub SERT project adverts for projects that can count as placements

Placement opportunity title

Staff name(s):	Phillipa Gillingham
Project title:	Monitoring the phenology of the IUCN endangered six-spotted cranefly <i>Idiocera sexguttata</i> in the New Forest
Project location:	New Forest
Project time (month):	Six field days spread over May to June 2019 together with additional work to make up to at least 10 days to count as a BU placement

Project Description

Idiocera sexguttata is listed under Section 41 (S41) and Section 42 (S42) of the 2006 Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act as of global concern. It is known from records in Dorset, Cornwall and Hampshire in England, as well as from Glamorgan and Caernarvonshire in Wales, and is thought to occupy seepage mires with sparse vegetation. Most records of this species within the UK have been reported during the month of June. Internationally there are also records from Denmark and from malaise traps in the Czech Republic. In 2017 and 2018 we resurveyed a site with one record of 'several individuals' at Stony Moors in the New Forest. In 2017, when we surveyed in July, we didn't find the species, but in 2018 when the surveys took place in June we were able to confirm the species is still there, and in fact saw it at three more places nearby. This led to the questions we will investigate here;

- 1) Are there further nearby sites with this species?
- 2) What is the phenology of this species in the New Forest?

The phenology of many species is advancing with climate change, so I suspect that in the New Forest, one of the more southerly (and thus warmer) UK sites, the population peak may be in late May or early June. This project will revisit the sites we checked previously weekly over six dates from mid-May to the end of June, and will expand the search radius to follow the seepage habitat to its edges. Students will practise field skills, including insect sampling techniques and the use of handheld GNSS, learn cranefly identification, and

will also have the opportunity to use GIS to present their results – training will be provided in this. Other rare and interesting species (Large Marsh Grasshopper, raft spider) are present at this site and will also be recorded. Because of the rarity of this species, the project could be written up as a paper for the Dipterists digest, giving experience of academic writing in a publishable format. This project would suit a small team of no more than 3 individuals so as to minimise trampling at this sensitive site.

Student groups this opportunity is likely to most suit:

Ecology & Wildlife Conservation, Biological Sciences, Geography, MSc Biodiversity Conservation, Environmental Sciences.

How much will it cost?

Nothing (you will need to bring your own lunches).

How many days placement will this count as?

Negotiable with Phillipa Gillingham – at least 10 days but possibly longer if extra work is included.

How many student places are available?

3

How to apply or find out more information

For further information contact Pippa Gillingham

pgillingham@bournemouth.ac.uk

To apply please send Pippa your CV and a short letter of application explaining why you would like to apply. If accepted onto the placement you must also register your placement place with Julie Gill through myCareerhub for it to count officially as a BU placement.

Deadline for application

31st Jan 2019