REWILDING INNOVATIONS – PHD OPPORTUNITY + ONGOING TOP-UP

The Hidden Vale Project are pleased to announce two exciting PhD project opportunities, supported by annual top-up scholarships of $7,000 for 3 years, plus operating funds.

We are inviting applications to join a collaborative project undertaking cutting-edge research into the restoration of faunal communities, habitat and ecosystem processes in Eastern Australia. PhD projects will be part of the broader long-term Hidden Vale Project, based at the Hidden Vale Wildlife Centre, where researchers have access to 9,000 ha of research-focussed nature refuge and grazing land, enviable resources (https://hiddenvalewildlife.uq.edu.au/research/hidden-vale-research-support-program) and where students are nurtured to be future leaders in the field.

About the Research

Two new full-time PhD opportunities are now available with enrolment at either The University of Queensland or The Australian National University.

The first will focus specifically on rufous bettong (*Aepyprymnus rufescens*) ecology, such as predator interactions, habitat use and carrying capacity and/or ecosystem impacts, to inform species recovery activities.

The second will focus on innovations in wildlife reintroductions and recovery, including addressing threats such as introduced predators, through the development of 'safe havens'.

Both projects will be well supported as part of a larger team of researchers from The University of Queensland and The Australian National University, with opportunities for visits to collaborating labs at each institution. Supervisory teams will be appointed to match the skills of the successful applicants. Projects are anticipated to commence in early 2021.

Figure 1. Rufous bettong (Aepyprymnus rufescensI)

Eligibility & Applications

- The successful candidates will have a background in ecology or equivalent.
- First class Honours (or equivalent academic qualifications) is a prerequisite for appointment.
- Applicants should be citizens of Australia or New Zealand, or Australian permanent residents.
- The successful candidates will be expected to be based for the majority of their PhD near Hidden Vale in Grandchester, Queensland.

Successful candidates will be invited to apply for stipend scholarships at either The University of Queensland or The Australian National University. Upon confirmation of the scholarship, a $7,000 per annum top-up scholarship (for 3 years) will also be awarded. Operating funds are also available as part of the broader project.

More details on the stipend scholarship rounds can be found at:

- UQ Graduate School Scholarship (UQGSS): https://scholarships.uq.edu.au/scholarship/uq-graduate-school-scholarships-uqgss) UQGSS applications close 28 September 2020.
- ANU AGRTP Stipend Scholarship: https://www.anu.edu.au/study/scholarships/find-a-scholarship/australian-government-research-training-program-agrtp-stipend AGRTP applications close 31 October 2020.

Interested individuals are invited to **submit an expression of interest** stating their interests and ideas in this area of research, transcript(s) and their CV, by **18 September 2020 for UQ applicants and 2 October 2020 for ANU applicants**.

To apply and for further information contact Dr Megan Brady megan.brady@turnerfamilyfoundation.com.au or Prof Adrian Manning adrian.manning@anu.edu.au