# Position Details

## Research Projects- CSOF3

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| The following information is for applicants | |
| Advertised Job Title | Research Projects Officer – Rabbit Biocontrol Team |
| Job Reference | 69171 |
| Tenure | Specified Term of 3 years  Full-time |
| Salary Range | AU$63,594 to AU$80,937 pa + up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) | Black Mountain, Canberra |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | Australian/New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents Only |
| Position reports to the | Team Leader, Rabbit Biocontrol |
| Client Focus – Internal | 100% |
| Client Focus – External | 0% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 0 |
| Enquire about this job | Robyn Hall via email at Robyn.Hall@csiro.au or phone +61 2 6246 4245 |
| How to apply | Apply online at <https://jobs.csiro.au/>  Internal applicants please apply via **Jobs Central**  If you experience difficulties when applying, please email [careers.online@csiro.au](mailto:careers.online@csiro.au) or call 1300 984 220. |

### Role Overview

Research Projects staff in CSIRO collaborate in scientific and technological activities with other research staff usually by assisting with detailed planning, undertaking or assisting with experimental, observational or technology development work, and in carrying out the more practical aspects of the work.

The Research Projects Officer will provide animal husbandry and research support to the Rabbit Biocontrol Team within the Managing Invasive Species and Diseases Program of Health & Biosecurity. The team’s research focuses on investigating the molecular epidemiology of rabbit caliciviruses in the context of biocontrol to manage feral rabbits in Australia. The successful candidate will primarily be responsible for maintaining high standards of animal husbandry and biosecurity in relation to the laboratory rabbit breeding colony and associated animal experimental work. They will also conduct laboratory analyses to support research projects, including DNA and RNA extractions, PCR, real-time PCR, next-generation sequencing, ELISAs, and general laboratory duties.

### Duties and Key Result Areas:

* Undertake animal husbandry duties for the laboratory rabbit breeding colony and animal experimental work
  + General animal husbandry and cleaning of animal facilities
  + Maintenance of records
  + Maintain appropriate stocks of food, hay, enrichment, bedding, and other supplies
  + Coordinate breeding schedules with research team, planning ahead to meet experiment and/or project demands
  + Coordinate weekend/public holiday animal care roster utilising casual animal care staff
  + Oversee the activities of less experienced staff and provide guidance animal husbandry and welfare.
  + Act as first point of contact for contractors and animal or facility emergencies
  + Maintain high levels of animal welfare, in accordance with animal ethics requirements
  + Prepare and comply with all animal ethics and facility documents pertaining to laboratory animals for research
  + Assist with monitoring and sample collection, including post-mortem examinations
* Under technical direction undertake experiments and laboratory analyses using a range of techniques, often working on parallel and competing tasks.
  + DNA and RNA extraction
  + cDNA synthesis
  + PCR, RT-PCR, real-time RT-PCR
  + Sanger sequencing
  + Preparation of libraries for next-generation sequencing
  + ELISAs
  + Data analysis
  + Maintain databases; data handling and recording
  + Maintain detailed and accurate records
* Participate in general laboratory duties and contribute to the team environment
  + Assist with maintenance of lab and ordering of lab consumables
  + Comply with Health and Safety policies and procedures
  + Communicate effectively with all team members and contribute to regular team meetings
* Communicate openly, effectively and respectfully with all staff, clients and suppliers in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation
* Work collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary research team and business unit to carry out tasks in support of CSIRO’s scientific objectives
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Code of Conduct, Health, Safety and Environment procedures and policy, Diversity initiatives and Making Safety Personal goals
* Other duties as directed

## **Required Competencies:**

* **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Proactively seeks and considers the ideas and opinions of others from within and outside the team to help form decisions, plans or actions.
* **Influence and Communication:** Puts forward ideas by presenting factual information supported by data, definitions, examples, illustrations or other aids, which will assist in conveying meaning.
* **Resource Management/Leadership:** Provides instruction and assists other staff to complete allocated tasks and activities.
* **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Identifies and considers the implications of a range of available alternatives in order to select the most appropriate response to problems of a familiar or recurring nature.
* **Independence:** Recognise and makes immediate changes to improve performance (faster, better, lower cost, more efficiently, better quality, improved client satisfaction).
* **Adaptability:**Willingness to change ideas or perceptions based on new information, contrary evidence or other people's points of view. Prepared to try out different approaches.

## **Selection Criteria**

#### Essential

*Under CSIRO policy only those who meet all essential criteria can be appointed.*

1. A relevant tertiary qualification or equivalent relevant work experience in biological or environmental science.
2. A relevant formal qualification/s in animal care.
3. An Australian manual driver’s licence.
4. Demonstrated experience in laboratory animal husbandry.
5. Demonstrated experience with molecular biology methods, such as DNA/RNA extraction, PCR, and ELISAs.

## **Desirable:**

1. Experience working with infectious agents under containment conditions.
2. Experience preparing animal ethics applications.
3. Experience working in Quarantine approved facilities.

Special Requirements

* The successful candidate will be asked to obtain and provide evidence of a National Police Check or equivalent. Please note that people with criminal records are not automatically deemed ineligible. Each application will be considered on its merits.
* The successful candidate will be required to work closely with rabbits.

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