

Position Description – Research Associate in Hydrogeology

Updated 21 July 2025

POSITION DETAILS	
College	College of Science and Engineering
Organisational Unit	National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training
Supervisor	Associate Professor of Hydrogeology
Classification	Research (Academic) Level A
Employment Type	Fixed-term, full-time

POSITION SUMMARY
<p>This fixed term position is located in Loxton for the majority of the contract and contributes to a One Basin Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) project.</p> <p>The Research Associate will undertake research in water banking for enhanced drought resilience under the direction of the Chief Investigator. In working with Chief Investigator and research team, the incumbent will assist in leading the design and execution of the research project. The project will review and assess the Murray Darling Basin's opportunities for water banking for irrigators, town supply and environmental benefit. The project aims to identify a portfolio of high-prospective demonstration sites across the basin and scope a trial site.</p> <p>The Research Associate will contribute to broadening awareness of water banking opportunities and contributing to mapping and communications regarding economic, practical and regulatory feasibility of water banking to a diverse range of stakeholders.</p>

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES
<p>All staff at Flinders are responsible for understanding their obligations and responsibilities as set out in the University's code of conduct and are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate commitment to the University's values of Integrity, Courage, Innovation, Excellence and the underlying ethos of being Student Centred; • contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team or work unit in order to meet the University's objectives. This includes demonstrating appropriate and professional workplace behaviours, providing assistance to team members if required and undertaking other key responsibilities or activities as directed by one's supervisor; • promote and support an inclusive workplace culture which values diversity and embraces the principles of equal opportunity; • perform their responsibilities in a manner which reflects and responds to continuous improvement; and • familiarise themselves and comply with the University's Work Health and Safety, Injury Management and Equal Opportunity policies.

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Research Associate in Hydrogeology is accountable for:

- Assisting in leading the project by collaborating with the project research team to successfully deliver project milestones and key performance indicators including producing and communicating reports, maps, portfolios, assessments and evaluations.
- Contribute to the planning and execution of research by offering new ideas, reviewing relevant literature and other sources of information, actively participating in the production of data and publications, and attending and presenting at seminars, meetings and conferences.
- Using exceptional interpersonal skills to contribute to coordinating, planning and executing the project tasks required to collaborate with industry partners, staff and stakeholders.
- This position will be located for the majority of time in the One Basin CRC regional science hub in Loxton
- There will be a need to travel to field sites and /or interstate to attend meetings, conferences and seminars.
- Some out of hours work (including weekends) may be required.
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the University.

A National Police Certificate which is satisfactory to the University will be required by Flinders University before the successful applicant can commence in this position.

KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

ESSENTIAL

- Completion (or near completion) of a PhD in hydrogeology or a related field or equivalent work experience.
- Demonstrated research experience and commitment to academic and industry publications and presentations.
- Demonstrated ability to deliver project targets on time.
- Demonstrated well-developed interpersonal skills and the capacity to collaborate and engage using oral and written communication with diverse stakeholders, staff and industry partners.
- Demonstrated ability to critically review the literature in relevant fields.
- Demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills in an academic environment.
- Demonstrated ability to undertake collaborative research and establish and maintain effective relationships with staff and industry.
- Knowledge of Geographical Information Systems, spatial data analysis and mapping.

DESIRABLE

- Australian experience or knowledge in regard to water quality and quantity
- Knowledge and/or experience in managed aquifer recharge operations/design
- Well developed quantitative skills, as evidenced by e.g. programming skills, numerical modelling skills (e.g. python, PHREEQC, MODFLOW).