University of Zurich[UZH]

Department of Geography

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To whom it may concern

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Ph.D. Position in Remote Sensing of Plant Water Interactions

The Remote Sensing of Water Systems (RSWS) group is a new professorship jointly established at the University of Zurich and the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag). The RSWS group develops and applies novel approaches building upon coupled models and observations to assess the availability, quality, and use of water. Our research activities will provide important information to advance understanding of water systems and to contribute tackling the key societal challenge of water scarcity.

In this framework, we invite applications for a PhD position ***assessing interactions between water and vegetated ecosystems using Earth observation data and models.***

The position will integrate Earth observation data, ecohydrological concepts, and process modeling. Conducted research will yield reliable and robust remote sensing approaches to assess interactions between water availability and vegetation functioning, and will allow investigating implications of environmental change on vegetation functioning and the water cycle.

The successful applicant will be based in Zurich and supervised by Eugenie Paul-Limoges (daily supervision) and Alexander Damm-Reiser (responsible faculty member). The position will involve collaboration with partners at the Department of Geography and Eawag.

The RSWS group is related to the Remote Sensing Laboratories (RSL) that host several research groups working on a variety of topics related to land surface processes, including the use of SAR, LIDAR and imaging spectroscopy based approaches. For more information, see http://www.geo.uzh.ch/en/units/rsws, http://www.geo.uzh.ch/en/units/rsl.

Upon start, applicants must have a completed master's degree in remote sensing, geography, Earth system science, environmental sciences, or any related science field. Applicants must be able to pursue data oriented computational research as well as experimental approaches and fieldwork. Modelling experience, good numerical skills, and literacy in programming is an asset. A good standard of written and spoken English is required. The position may start as of December 1, 2017 (or as soon as possible thereafter) and is limited to 3 years. Salaries correspond to the UZH regulations of PhD salaries.

We are looking for a highly motivated, enthusiastic and independent person with a passion for science and willing to join our interdisciplinary team. We offer outstanding working conditions, a high quality of life in Zurich, and an excellent supporting environment.

Please send your application as one single PDF file (motivation letter, complete CV, and names of 2 references) to Rita.Ott@geo.uzh.ch, no later than September 29th, 2017. The position remains open until filled. For further questions, please contact Alexander.Damm@geo.uzh.ch.