**Job Description:** Estación Biológica de Doñana (EBD)

| **Role**: Research Assistant**Website**: [www.ebd.csic.es](http://www.ebd.csic.es/inicio) | **Location**:Estación Biológica de Doñana CSIC (EBD)C/ Americo Vespucio, s/n, 41092, Isla de la Cartuja, Sevilla |
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**Company Description**:

Doñana Biological Station is a public research institute belonging to the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, CSIC, within the area of Natural Resources. Our primary mission is to carry out multidisciplinary research at the highest level, directed at understanding, from an evolutionary point of view, how biodiversity is generated, how it is maintained and damaged, in addition to the consequences of its loss and the chances of their preservation and restoration. Furthermore, it also promotes the transfer of scientific knowledge to society. The institute consists of a main building in Seville, which has an innovative Stable Isotope Laboratory (LIE) and two field stations, the ICTS Doñana Biological Reserve, (Doñana Natural Area, Almonte, Huelva) and Roblehondo Field Station (Parque Natural de las Sierras de Cazorla, Segura and Las Villas).

**Role Description**:

This project is called *Global biodiversity conservation: from knowledge to decision and back.* The planet is facing a biodiversity crisis that both researchers and decision-makers are addressing with their expertise, data and tools. Ideally, decision-making would be based on the best up-to-date and evidence-based scientific knowledge, while scientists would be aware of the needs and open questions of those that take the decisions that directly impact species and ecosystems. So how far are we from this? To address this question, we propose to mine information from national biodiversity strategy documents, from species status assessments, as well as looking into the sets of indicators of biodiversity change that have been selected by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. The specific question to be addressed and the material to be reviewed will depend on the interest of the student.

The student will participate, and be trained, in the following research activities:

1. Review of policy documents and grey literature to mine qualitative and quantitative data. We could ask for instance
	1. To what extent do national biodiversity conservation strategies consider the impact of the transport and energy sectors on species and ecosystems?
	2. What are the data and tools used to produce global indicators of biodiversity change? How transparent and replicable is the process?
	3. What is the impact of a ubiquitous (and yet often ignored) pressure, that is the mining of construction minerals, on species globally?
2. Identification of knowledge gaps and future lines of research.
3. Data analyses (for instance with R and QGIS) and interpretation of results.
4. Preparation of a scientific manuscript at the science-policy interface.

The work will be mostly carried out at the Doñana Biological Station (EBD-CSIC) in the city of Seville (Spain), although the stay might be also complemented with some field trips to the Doñana Nature Reserve.

**Required Applicant Profile:**

EBD are seeking graduates in animal behaviour, biology, botany, ecology, zoology or related fields to carry out a 13-week internship at their research institute in Seville, Spain. Participants will be encouraged to attend weekly seminars hosted by the institute. Spanish language skills are not necessary but would be an asset.