UNSW SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL, EARTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
PhD student in Environmental Science at the University of New South Wales.

Surface water dynamics as a function of climate and river flow data.

Scholarship Description.
An exciting opportunity exists for a PhD student interested in integrating spatially explicit data on climate, flow and inundation to model flooded areas as a function of flow using spatially explicit datasets in the Murray-Darling Basin.

We are seeking a PhD student for a period of three years (with a possible extension of 6 months). Candidates are expected to apply for a PhD scholarship (deadlines of 18th of Oct 2013 for domestic students and 6th of Sept 2013 for international students for a Jan 2014 start date). Candidates holding their own scholarship are also encouraged to apply. A top-up scholarship of $8,000 per annum will be provided and opportunities to present research findings at local and international conferences. Opportunities exist for students to undertake undergraduate tutoring responsibilities.

The Project.
The top-up scholarship is funded through an Australian Research Council Linkage grant that brings together a multidisciplinary team from UNSW (Dr Mirela Tulbure, Prof Richard Kingsford, Prof Richard Lucas and Prof David Keith) and the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to develop an innovative approach for assessing environmental flows using satellite data. The resulting PhD will position you for a career in water and quantitative ecology: key national research priorities in Australia. A background in modelling and analysing large, spatially explicit data sets are required. The position would suit a recent graduate in ecology but with spatial analysis knowledge and well developed quantitative skills. Experience with image processing, scripting or programming and willingness to improve these skills is required. Good presentation and writing skills would be beneficial. A demonstrated enthusiasm for research is paramount.

The Research Group.
The student will be a part of a strong research team based at the Australian Wetlands, Rivers and Landscapes Centre (http://www.wetrivers.unsw.edu.au) and part of the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences (http://www.bees.unsw.edu.au/) at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, with strong support from the industry partner investigators at the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINES:
For further information, please contact Dr Mirela Tulbure mirela.tulbure@unsw.edu.au. Interested candidates should send a CV, undergraduate transcripts and contact details for two referees to Dr Mirela Tulbure. Applications will be accepted until a suitable candidate is found with a preferred start date as soon as possible, Jan 2014 the latest.