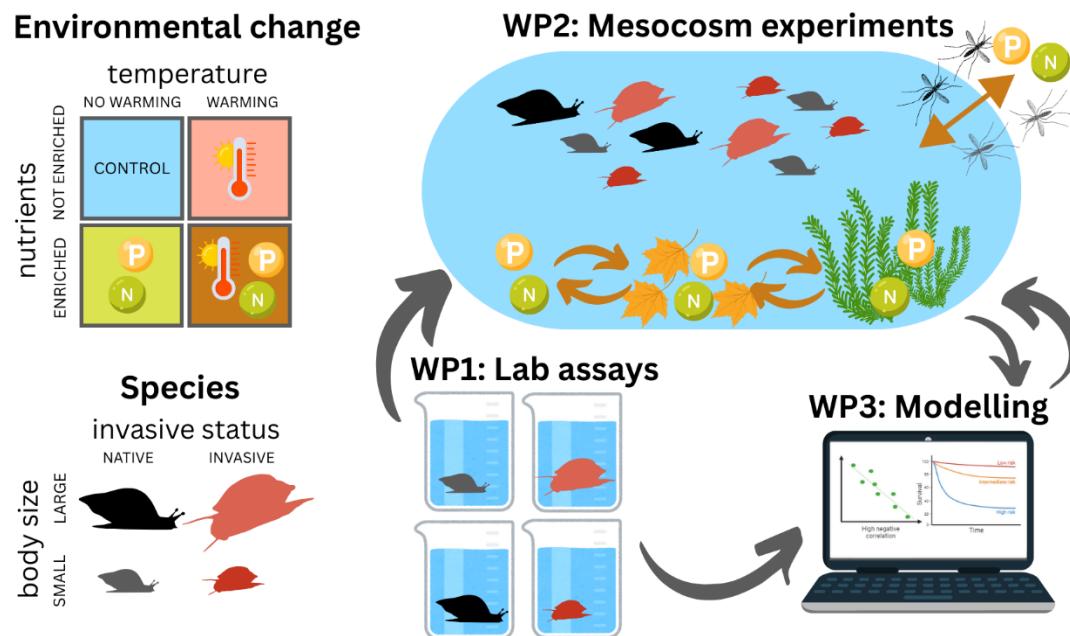




PhD position to study mechanisms and effect of species invasions

We are seeking a **PhD student** to join a newly funded three-year interdisciplinary project "**Global change, freshwater snails and ecosystem effects: Will smaller invasive species dominate?**" The project will investigate the mechanisms and effects of species invasions along environmental gradients and their consequences for community- and ecosystem-level responses, using native and invasive freshwater snails as a model system. International collaborators include Assoc. Prof. Pavel Kratina (QMUL, London, UK), Dr. Arnaud Sentis (INRAE, Aix-en-Provence, France) and Prof. Otto Seppälä (University of Innsbruck, Austria).



PhD Position Details

You will be primarily involved in the experimental part of the project. Your responsibilities will include:

- Maintaining snails in the laboratory and conducting experiments to test their responses to warming and eutrophication.
- Participating in field sampling and mesocosm experiments.
- Analysing ecological data (e.g., in R).
- Writing scientific manuscripts and presenting findings at conferences.

Are you interested in interdisciplinary research that combines organismal biology, community ecology, and modern experimental methods? This position is ideal for you.



This is a fully funded PhD position (4 years). The PhD can start between April and September 2026, with an earlier starting date preferred. The total monthly income, starting at ~32,000 CZK in the first year (~1,330 EUR, plus health insurance and pension contributions), is sufficient to cover local living costs.

Required Qualifications for the PhD Position

- Master's degree in ecology, biology, environmental science, limnology, or a related field.
- Experience with laboratory experiments and culturing organisms; prior work with freshwater snails or other macroinvertebrates is preferred.
- Experience with R or similar tools for ecological data analysis is beneficial.
- The working environment is international; excellent communication skills in English are essential.

How to Apply

Please send an email with the subject "**PhD Application – Snails Project**" to Prof. David Boukal (dboukal@prf.jcu.cz) and attach a **single PDF** containing your CV, cover letter describing your motivation and relevant experience, contact details for 2–3 referees and a writing sample (thesis chapter, report, or publication).

Application deadline: extended until 15 February 2026.

Host institution: University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Faculty of Science, Department of Ecosystem Biology. České Budějovice is a relaxed city of ~100,000 inhabitants and is within easy reach of Prague and Vienna. The campus offers access to a vibrant research community and numerous modern facilities.

See <https://davidboukal.com/index.php/en/opportunities/69-phd-position-to-study-mechanisms-and-effect-of-species-invasions> for further details.

For questions or informal inquiries, please contact David Boukal (dboukal@prf.jcu.cz).