Environmental Statistician  
UKRI – NERC – BGS  
The role can be based at our Headquarters in Keyworth, Nottingham or at the Lyell Centre, Edinburgh  

£30,782 to £42,576 (depending on qualifications and experience, for a salary above £38,318 you will need to meet the higher pay band criteria detailed below)  

Full-Time – 37 hours a week (flexible working options may be available)  
Permanent Appointment  

About us  
The British Geological Survey (BGS) is an applied geoscience research centre that is housed in UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and affiliated to the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC). It is a world leading geological survey that provides a core science mission to inform government of science related to the subsurface and its interfaces and also undertakes applied research for solutions to earth and environmental processes, both in the UK and globally. It is funded directly by UKRI as well as through research grants and via private sector contracts.  

BGS has an annual budget of approximately £60 million and employs 650 people. It has two main sites, a head office in Keyworth near Nottingham and the Lyell Centre, which is a joint collaboration with Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh. BGS works with more than 150 private sector organisations as well as having close links with 40 universities and sponsors approximately 100 PhD students each year.  

About the role  
You will contribute to a range of statistical and interdisciplinary projects in the BGS Digital Challenge Area. These projects will include research into statistical methodology in addition to the analysis of earth science and environmental data sets. The work will be mostly UK based but you may be required to work overseas for short periods of time. You will need to be able to travel between the BGS offices in the UK. You will work as part of a project team and provide the expertise required to develop, apply and advise on the use of statistical and data science methods, and other mathematical and analysis techniques to a range of geoscience problems.  

You will be expected to have a role in the development of statistics more generally within the organisation, and in collaboration with other academic and industrial partners. As part of the community of statisticians in BGS you will be expected to share your knowledge and input to the development of new research ideas and projects.  

Depending on experience, you will also be required to contribute to the development of proposals and bids for funding. You must therefore have a good understanding and knowledge of statistical methods in the environmental sciences such as some or all of the following: survey design, linear mixed modelling, geostatistical methods, time series
modelling, generalized linear models, multivariate methods, modelling in a computational Bayesian framework, extreme value theory and machine learning

About you

You should have a PhD in applied statistics or equivalent experience of applying statistics methodology in a research environment. You should have excellent communication skills, both oral and written. The post will involve multidisciplinary team working, therefore you must be able to work effectively with scientists in different disciplines.

What we offer

A generous benefits package is also offered, including a very competitive pension scheme, 30 days annual leave plus bank holidays, free parking and access to flexi-time. We also offer the 'Bike to Work' scheme, free parking and health and wellbeing support.

For a salary at the top end of the advertised range, you will also need to meet the desirable criteria detailed on the TopCareer.jobs website.

Please note that any internal BGS staff applying for this post would, if successful, be appointed to new UKRI Terms and Conditions and pay (if not already on them).

How to Apply

Applicants are required to include a cover letter outlining their suitability for this role. We would stress the importance of this paperwork in our selection process. A well thought through application addressing the advertised essential and desirable criteria for the post will be considered far more favourably than a generic covering letter and CV.

Applications are being handled by UK Shared Business Services, to apply please visit our job board at https://www.topcareer.jobs/Vacancy/irc253978_10670.aspx

Applicants who are unable to apply online should contact us by telephone on +44 (0)1793 867000.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 1 July 2020

BGS provides a range of flexible working options including flexible working patterns, compressed hours and home working so if you have a need for flexibility, please raise this in the recruitment process when your needs, balanced with the requirements of the role, will be fully considered.

We are committed to promoting equality and diversity across our organisation as well as across all areas of our science community. As such, we aim to have a workforce with employees from all backgrounds with people who are passionate about earth science and who share our commitment to work for the good of the environment and the benefit of society.

We will actively seek to avoid discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, race (including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin), sex or sexual orientation, being trans or a member of the non-binary community, being married or in a civil partnership, being pregnant or on maternity leave, disability, race (including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin), religion, sex or sexual orientation.
The British Geological Survey is an Investors in People organisation and has achieved Bronze status for Athena SWAN – a scheme that recognises an organisation’s commitment and progress in developing a diverse and inclusive workforce.

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<th>Specific Skills Criteria</th>
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<td><strong>(S = Shortlist Stage)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>(I = Interview Stage)</strong></td>
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<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>QUALIFICATIONS</td>
<td>PhD in applied statistics or equivalent experience of applying statistical modelling methodology. (S)</td>
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<td>EXPERIENCE</td>
<td>Experience of delivering the statistical component of interdisciplinary research (S)</td>
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<td>For higher pay band should have experience of leading the statistical component of interdisciplinary research (I)</td>
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<td>For higher pay band should have experience of seeking funding for statistical research. (I)</td>
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**KNOWLEDGE**

- Broad knowledge of statistical and data science methods applied in the environmental sciences such as some or all of the following: survey planning, linear mixed modelling, geostatistical methods, time series modelling, generalized linear models, multivariate methods, modelling in a computational Bayesian framework, extreme value theory or machine learning. (I)
- Specific expertise regarding one or more of the above methodologies (I)
- For higher pay band should have knowledge of the wider scientific and/or commercial context of their work (I)

**SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- Ability to identify appropriate statistical methodologies required to address specific scientific questions (I)
- Ability to communicate statistical concepts to non-statisticians (I)
- Ability to deliver statistical outputs according to the specifications and time-scales required by collaborators and customers. (I)
- Strong coding skills in an environment such as R or Python. (I)
- Good writing presentational skills (S)
- Good time management skills (I)
- For higher pay band should have the ability to secure funding for statistical work or research (I)

**PERSONAL QUALITIES**

- Flexibility, willingness to travel between BGS sites as required (I)
- Willingness to occasionally work overseas. (I)
- Able to work in a team and to cooperate effectively across disciplines (S)

**Experience of using git workflows**

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| MOTIVATION | Displays an enthusiasm for their science / their role and a desire to develop this further (I)  
Demonstrates curiosity and a drive to resolve scientific problems (I)  
For higher band should be enthusiastic to run projects, line manage staff and mentor colleagues on using statistical techniques (I) | Demonstrates an interest in their own Continuing Professional Development (I)  
Demonstrates an interest in the work of BGS and UKRI (I) |