POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR: Developing model-based decision support tools in support of climate ready management procedures in the Pacific Hake Fishery

POSITION: OSU’s Cooperative Institute for Marine Ecosystem Resources Studies invites application for a full-time (100% FTE), 12- month POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR. This position is located at either the campus of NOAA’s Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle, WA, or Newport, OR, USA, or the Oregon state University campus in Corvallis, OR, USA. The position could be served from elsewhere as appropriate depending on circumstance to be negotiated with final candidate.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES:
We seek a highly motivated researcher to develop and implement a collaborative, interdisciplinary project on Pacific Hake in the California Current. Pacific Hake, the most abundant groundfish in the California Current Ecosystem, migrates between the U.S.A. and Canada and its fishery is managed under an international treaty between the two countries. A team of scientists at the NOAA NWFSC has been developing a management strategy evaluation (MSE) to better understand how changing environmental conditions could affect hake biology, stock assessment uncertainty and risk tolerance, and to evaluate the climate readiness of the binational treaty. This applied work addresses needs of hake managers to investigate management procedures that are robust to environmental variability and supported by both parties, and it is also broadly applicable to transboundary species with dynamics likely to be affected by climate change.

The goal of the successful candidate’s work is to expand an existing hake MSE simulation model to include environmentally driven growth and explore the combined consequences of climate-driven changes in recruitment, growth, and movement for the binational management of the hake fishery. The successful candidate will collaborate with the Hake Treaty managers and stakeholders to develop scenarios of environmental variability and directional change and communicate model outputs to support their planning and decision-making. Climate change scenarios may include implicit modeling of climate change effects and/or applying projections from regional oceanographic models. This project integrates a growing body of NWFSC research linking hake to their environment in support of a more climate resilient hake fishery. As long as the needs of the project are met, the postdoc has freedom to follow their interests and produce publications related to the general topic area.
We pursue applicants with diverse perspectives, are committed to inclusion, diversity, equity, and open science, and strive for a culture of understanding, respect, long-term engagement, and accountability.

MINIMUM/REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Doctorate (PhD) in Quantitative Ecology, Statistics, Fisheries Science, Oceanography, Computer Science, Ecology, Natural Sciences or related field
- Previous experience working in collaborative research projects at the interface of science and management
- Demonstrated experience with population dynamic models, and analytical software (R)
- A commitment to foster inclusion and working with colleagues from diverse background, cultures, nationalities, and identities

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Previous experience working with stock assessment software (e.g., Stock Synthesis), optimization software (ADMB or TMB), oceanographic model output, and open science tools (e.g., GitHub)
- Knowledge of oceanography and ecology
- Records of published research

STIPEND: Salaries for OSU postdoctoral scholar positions start at $55,000 and increase to $60,800 based on years of experience after graduation and qualifications. Health insurance for the incumbent is included and additional health insurance for family members is available at reasonable cost. Travel allowance to annual project meetings is also included. This position does not include retirement benefits. For more info see: https://gradschool.oregonstate.edu/postdocs/stipends-and-benefits.

DEPARTMENT: Cooperative Institute for Marine Ecosystem and Resources Studies (CIMERS)
LOCATION: Corvallis, OR or Seattle, WA (a remote location negotiable)
POSITION START DATE: April 1st, 2023 or negotiable
POSITION END: 12 months after the official start date
POSITION RENEWAL: An additional 8-month appointment is possible after the initial 12-month appointment

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Until a suitable candidate is found
Please send a cover letter detailing previous relevant academic and research experiences, a CV, and contact info for three references. Send applications to:
LeAnne Rutland: LeAnne.Rutland@oregonstate.edu

For inquiries about the position, please contact Kristin Marshall (she/her, kristin.marshall@noaa.gov), Aaron Berger (he/him, aaron.berger@noaa.gov) and Lorenzo Ciannelli (he/him, lorenzo.ciannelli@oregonstate.edu)

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