POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR: SALMON-ORIENTED FOODWEB SCENARIO EXPLORATION IN THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CURRENT

POSITION: Oregon State University’s Cooperative Institute for Marine Resources Studies invites application for a full-time, 12-month postdoctoral scholar appointment with potential to extend for an additional 12 months.

The position can be located either at the Hatfield Marine Science Center (HMSC) in Newport, Oregon, or on the OSU campus in Corvallis, Oregon, USA, with travel to NOAA’s Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle, WA. A travel budget will be provided to attend group meetings of the research team, bringing together individuals from all locations on a quarterly basis.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, initial work may be conducted from other locations. This situation will be negotiated with the final candidate, depending on specific circumstances, and will follow OSU guidelines for COVID-19 research resumption (https://covid.oregonstate.edu/keep-researching).

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES: The postdoctoral scholar will work in collaboration with staff at NOAA Fisheries/Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) in Seattle, Newport and Corvallis, and faculty at Oregon State University (OSU) in the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences department (CEOAS) and Cooperative Institute for Marine Resources Studies (CIMRS). The scholar will collaborate closely with ecologists at OSU and NOAA to explore various hypotheses regarding the trophic interactions that affect juvenile salmon growth and survival within the Northern California Current Large Marine Ecosystem. The scholar’s responsibilities will include analysis of distribution and abundance data of juvenile salmon and other predator and competitor species to develop and evaluate simulation scenarios within an “end-to-end” ecosystem model framework. The scholar will also collaborate closely with ecologists at OSU and NOAA to explore the consequences of potential management actions and climate change upon salmon.

The scholar will also have the opportunity to contribute to field-work (COVID-permitting), team projects and workgroups at both OSU and NOAA Fisheries, and will foster new professional skills and contacts for development of their own professional career. The scholar’s work will build a stronger understanding of CCLME processes, improve our ability to anticipate the effects of changing ocean conditions on marine resources, and identify important gaps in current survey efforts. The scholar’s work will inform decisions made by NOAA Fisheries for protected species recovery and restoration and the Pacific Fisheries Management Council. OSU mentoring will be provided by Lorenzo Ciannelli (CEOAS) and Jim Ruzicka (CIMRS), NWFSC engagement will be with Lisa Crozier, David Huff, and other colleagues from OSU, NOAA and the NWFSC Ocean Ecology Team.

RESPONSIBILITIES
65% Conducts background literature review, communication with subject experts, statistical analysis of data, and model scenario design and exploration. Attends and travels to meetings of a collaborative research team, consisting of OSU and NOAA researchers.

20% Develops and submits manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals

10% Interacts with existing graduate students to provide guidance on their projects

5% Communicates research results to other members of the scientific community

MINIMUM/REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

PhD in Quantitative Ecology, Statistics, Fisheries, Oceanography, Ecology, Natural Sciences, or closely related fields.

Experience with modeling and advanced statistical analysis

Expertise in statistical programming software, such as ‘R’ and/or Matlab

Experience with writing manuscripts for submission to peer-reviewed scientific journals.

Strong communication skills and willingness to ask clarifying questions

Ability to pursue solutions independently

Demonstrated willingness to work with graduate students and to assist them in developing their projects.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of food web models, population dynamics models, and biological oceanography

Experience working with large, multi-variate datasets

A successful publication record in peer-reviewed scientific journals

Ability to work with colleagues across various disciplines, such as ecology, statistics, fisheries, oceanography, and resource management.
STIPEND: $52,000 - 57,000 per year, and health insurance for the incumbent. Health insurance for family members is available at reasonable cost. This position does not include retirement benefits. See https://gradschool.oregonstate.edu/postdocs/stipends-and-benefits for more details. (The budget allows for a scholar with up to four years’ experience under OSU policy.)

POSITION AVAILABLE: Fall 2020

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Applications will be considered until the position is filled. All applications received by December 1, 2020 will receive full consideration.

TO APPLY: Email application materials to leanne.rutland@oregonstate.edu

Attach the following electronic documents that should address the required and preferred qualifications:

1) A resume/CV that includes the names of at least three professional references, their e-mail addresses and telephone contact numbers.

2) A cover letter indicating how your qualifications and experience have prepared you for this position.

Oregon State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

For additional information about the position please contact: Lorenzo Ciannelli, 541-737-3142, lorenzo.ciannelli@oregonstate.edu or Lisa Crozier, lisa.crozier@noaa.gov.

For more info on CIMRS see: https://hmsc.oregonstate.edu/cimrs

For more information regarding OSU please visit: http://main.oregonstate.edu/about,