Postdoctoral Scholar Position
Understanding Spatial Interactions Across Ocean-use Sectors in a Changing Climate

The California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) Team seeks a highly-motivated researcher to coordinate and lead a collaborative, interdisciplinary project focused on understanding how climate change may alter the spatial overlap between offshore wind energy activities and fisheries species, protected species, and commercial fisheries on the U.S. West Coast. The successful candidate will share NOAA’s and UCSC’s commitment to inclusion, diversity, and equity, and join a team of researchers that strives for a culture of understanding, respect, and accountability. The CCIEA Team is led by NOAA’s Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers in partnership with UCSC. Together we conduct innovative science to support ecosystem-based management of the California Current.

The candidate will have latitude to develop research in a direction aligned with their interests and expertise, but the broad goal of this position is to quantify how climate affects the overlap between targeted and protected species distributions, commercial fishing grounds, and potential wind energy areas currently (~1980-2020) and in the future (2020-2100). The candidate will have the opportunity to coordinate and collaborate with several members of the CCIEA Team and work with large datasets related to climate forecasting, species distributions, systematic surveys, and fisheries. Together, these analyses will contribute to decision-support tools to identify and minimize tradeoffs between conservation of protected species, sustainable management of fisheries species, the well-being of communities that are reliant upon these living marine resources, and offshore wind energy activities. Additionally, this is a topic of national interest across several regions of NOAA’s Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Program (e.g., Gulf of Mexico and Northeast Atlantic) and there should be opportunities to collaborate with other IEA researchers and engage in national IEA working groups.

The anticipated start date is June 1, 2022 (negotiable). Initial appointment is for 1 year, with reappointment up to three years total pending performance review and funding availability. The position will remain open until filled. To ensure full consideration, applications should be submitted by April 1, 2022.

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS: Ph.D. in Biology, Ecology, Human-Environment Geography, Economics, Biological Oceanography, Statistics, Fisheries or related discipline; strong quantitative skills; ability to analyze model output and environmental data; willingness for collaboration with other student, postdoctoral, NOAA and University scientists; demonstrated ability to summarize scientific findings in the form of written manuscripts and oral presentations.
PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: Experience in spatial statistics or ecological modeling; proficiency in programming languages such as R (preferred), ArcGIS, MATLAB, or Python; experience developing and leading research analyses; familiarity with climate models and climate data.

LOCATION: Seattle, Washington with remote possibilities

TO APPLY: Submit as a single PDF: (1) a letter of application that addresses how you meet the basic and preferred qualifications, (2) a curriculum vitae, (3) one to three representative publications, and (4) names and contact information of three references. Applications should be sent directly to Kelly Andrews (kelly.andrews@noaa.gov) and Elliott Hazen (elliott.hazen@noaa.gov). Applicants are welcome to include the name and pronoun they would like to be referred to in their materials and we will honor this throughout the application process.

We recognize that the pandemic is exacerbating challenges for working parents, caregivers, and others that are trying to balance work and family obligations. We do not want these challenges to prevent qualified candidates from applying. We strongly encourage all interested candidates to apply and to provide us the opportunity to address application criteria, workload, and duty station concerns during the selection process.

*The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, or protected veteran status. UC Santa Cruz is committed to excellence through diversity and strives to establish a climate that welcomes, celebrates, and promotes respect for the contributions of all students and employees.*