



PO Box 705
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www.pwssc.org

Position Announcement

Issued June 27, 2017

Job Title: Postdoctoral Researcher

Location: Cordova, Alaska

Background: The mission of PWSSC is to advance community resilience and the understanding and sustainable use of ecosystems. Prince William Sound (PWS) is located in the northeast corner of the Pacific Ocean at 60° N and includes an intricate network of tidewater and inland glaciers, temperate rainforests, islands, barrier islands, wetlands, and freshwater and marine systems. PWS has 4900 km of shoreline and is surrounded by the Chugach Mountains that reach 4,300 m and contains the most extensive system of tidewater glaciers in North America. Most of the land area is in or adjacent to the Chugach National Forest. Of the five PWS communities, only Valdez and Whittier have highway access to the main road system. Access to Cordova is by boat or plane. The community is served by Alaska Marine Highway System ferries and an airport that receives daily commercial airline traffic. Commercial salmon fisheries are the cornerstone of the local economy. The region also supports subsistence and sport fisheries of various species.

The Herring Research and Monitoring program is a long-term research effort studying Pacific herring in Prince William Sound, Alaska. The long-term goal of the program is to improve predictive models of herring stocks through research and monitoring. The program is funded by the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council and coordinated by Prince William Sound Science Center. The program has completed five years of research that focused on overwintering success of age-0 herring, and is now entering a new phase with a focus on the connection between herring and environmental conditions.

Job Description: The Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC; www.pwssc.org) is accepting applications for a Postdoctoral Researcher. The successful applicant will join the Herring Research and Monitoring (HRM) team. We desire a person to examine the linkages between Prince William Sound Pacific herring condition or recruitment and environmental conditions. The successful applicant will be expected to draw data from existing herring research, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Gulf Watch Alaska program (<http://www.gulfwatchalaska.org/>), and other sources as necessary to study potential linkages. The applicant will be expected to design their own approach to studying how herring are tied to environmental conditions: abiotic, biotic, or both. The goal of the research is to provide insight on why herring have not recovered in Prince William Sound.

The successful applicant will be expected to generate peer-reviewed publications. They will be responsible for submitting reports and annual proposals as required by the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council and NOAA. They will be expected to assist in the HRM



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program coordination activities, which requires working with all members of the HRM research team, but their primary role is to conduct research.

The position supervisor is Dr. Scott Pegau. Other HRM team members the person will be expected to work with include: Drs. Bishop, Gorman, and Rand at PWSSC, Dr. Branch (UW) and Dr. Hershberger (USGS).

The available funding covers salary, benefits, and some travel to interact with researchers at other locations. There is not funding to cover laboratory experiments or field observations. The position is to be housed at PWSSC, but we will consider other arrangements with researchers in the HRM program.

Qualifications: The applicant must have completed a Ph.D. in fisheries science, ecology, or a related field. Successful candidates will be expected to have a proven record of peer-reviewed publications. Applicants without a Ph.D., but over ten years of research with forage fish will also be considered. Candidates that are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents must satisfy U.S. immigration requirements.

Compensation: Monthly wages: \$5,000 plus benefits. Benefits include medical insurance, paid leave, and employer matching up to 6% of salary in a 403B retirement savings plan.

Duration: This is a full-time, exempt position supported by a grant with three years of anticipated funding. Funding of the position is reviewed and committed annually.

Starting Date: Between December 2017 and February 2018

Review of applications begins: 15 August 2017

To apply: Send a cover letter explaining your interest in the position and relevant skills, a curriculum vitae, and two or more references (including names, phone numbers and email addresses) to Dr. Scott Pegau at wspgou@pwssc.org. Applicants **must submit their research plan in the form of a proposal** with a three-year duration. The proposal must follow the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council format. Please contact Dr. Pegau (907-424-5800 x222 or wspgou@pwssc.org) to get a proposal template or follow the attached instructions. Contact Dr. Pegau with any questions you may have about this position.

For more information about the Prince William Sound Science Center, go to: www.pwssc.org. Position open until filled. Dr. Pegau will be unavailable July 30- August 11.



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EVOSTC FY17-FY21 INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS PROGRAM PROJECT PROPOSAL SUMMARY PAGE

Project Title

Primary Investigator(s) and Affiliation(s)

Date Proposal Submitted

Project Abstract

1. Executive Summary

Identify the hypotheses the project is designed to address. Describe the background and history of the problem. Include a scientific literature review that covers the most significant previous work history related to the project. Please provide a summary of the project including key hypotheses and overall goals.

2. Relevance to the Invitation for Proposals

Discuss how the project addresses the projects of interest listed in the Invitation and the overall Program goals and objectives. Describe the results you expect to achieve during the project, the benefits of success as they relate to the topic under which the proposal was submitted, and the potential recipients of these benefits.

3. Project Personnel

The CV's of all principal investigators and other senior personnel involved in the proposal must be provided. Each resume is limited to two consecutively numbered pages and must include the following information:

- A list of professional and academic credentials, mailing address, and other contact information (including e-mail address)
- A list of up your most recent publications most closely related to the proposed project and up to five other significant publications. Do not include additional lists of publications, lectures, etc.
- A list of all persons (including their organizational affiliations) in alphabetical order with whom you have collaborated on a project or publication within the last four years. If there have been no collaborators, this should be indicated.

4. Project Design

A. Objectives

List the objectives of the proposed research and briefly state why the intended research is important. If your proposed project builds on recent work, provide detail on why the data set needs to be continued and whether any changes are proposed. If the proposed project is for new work, explain why the new data is needed. Describe the anticipated final product.

B. Procedural and Scientific Methods

For each objective listed in A. above, identify the specific methods that will be used to meet the objective. In describing the methodologies for collection and analysis, identify measurements to be made and the anticipated precision and accuracy of each measurement and describe the sampling equipment in a manner that permits an assessment of the anticipated raw-data quality.

If applicable, discuss alternative methodologies considered, and explain why the proposed methods were chosen. In addition, projects that will involve the lethal collection of birds or mammals must comply with the EVOSTC's policy on collections, available on our website www.evostc.state.ak.us

C. Data Analysis and Statistical Methods

Describe the process for analyzing data. Discuss the means by which the measurements to be taken could be compared with historical observations or with regions that are thought to have similar ecosystems. Describe the statistical power of the proposed sampling program for detecting a significant change in numbers. To the extent that the variation to be expected in the response variable(s) is known or can be approximated, proposals should demonstrate that the sample sizes and sampling times (for dynamic processes) are of sufficient power or robustness to adequately test the hypotheses. For environmental measurements, what is the measurement error associated with the devices and approaches to be used?

D. Description of Study Area

Where will the project be undertaken? Describe the study area, including, if applicable, decimally-coded latitude and longitude readings of sampling locations or the bounding coordinates of the sampling region (e.g., 60.8233, -147.1029, 60.4739, -147.7309 for the north, east, south and west bounding coordinates).

5. Coordination and Collaboration

Within the Program



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Provide a list and clearly describe the functional and operational relationships with the other program projects. This includes any coordination that has taken or will take place and what form the coordination will take (shared field sites or researchers, research platforms, sample collection, data management, equipment purchases, etc.).

With Other EVOSTC-funded Programs and Projects

Indicate how your proposed program relates to, complements or includes collaborative efforts with other proposed or existing programs or projects funded by the EVOSTC.

With Trustee or Management Agencies

Please discuss if there are any areas which may support EVOSTC trust or other agency work or which have received EVOSTC trust or other agency feedback or direction, including the contact name of the agency staff. Please include specific information as to how the subject area may assist EVOSTC trust or other agency work.

If the proposed project requires or includes collaboration with other agencies, organizations or scientists to accomplish the work, such arrangements should be fully explained and the names of agency or organization representatives involved in the project should be provided. If your proposal is in conflict with another project or program, note this and explain why.

With Native and Local Communities

Provide a detailed plan for any local and native community involvement in the project.

6. Schedule

Program Milestones

Specify when critical program tasks will be completed. Reviewers will use this information in conjunction with annual program reports to assess whether the program is meeting its objectives and is suitable for continued funding.

Measurable Program Tasks

Specify, by each quarter of each fiscal year (February 1 – January 31), when critical program tasks will be completed.