

University of California at Santa Barbara

National Center for Ecological Analysis & Synthesis (NCEAS)

Conservation Aquaculture Research Team (CART)

Postdoctoral Fellowship

Environmental Impact and Sustainability of Global Food Systems

We are seeking a Postdoctoral Researcher for a recently funded project at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS), University of California, Santa Barbara. The project will also bring together a working group of experts in global food systems and conservation to synthesize, map, and simulate the environmental impact of feeding an ever-expanding human population. Thus, the research encompasses ecological impacts and interactions across land and aquatic environments.

The post-doc will be based at NCEAS in Santa Barbara, CA and will have the opportunity to pursue her/his own research related to the project theme as well as be a central member of the working group. As part of the working group, the post-doc will be involved in: 1) developing the framework for evaluating the cumulative environmental impact of food production, including the extraction, compiling and processing of relevant data from existing literature and repositories; 2) creation of the comprehensive ‘food impact’ database; 3) mapping the current state of all food systems on land and oceans (leveraging spatially explicit land-use methods); and 4) modeling and mapping possible future food scenarios given spatial human population growth and consumption models and climate change effects. This full-time position offers competitive salary and benefits commensurate with experience. The appointment is for 2 years, with the possibility of a third year pending available funds and a strong performance. The successful candidate will be directly mentored by Ben Halpern and integrated with his [research lab](#) and the [CART](#) initiative – which offers opportunities to work across other on-going and related projects, including “Climate Change Impacts on Ocean Aquaculture.”

The working group affiliated with this project is comprised of global leaders in aquaculture, fisheries, and agriculture and land use from academia, agencies and NGOs, offering a unique opportunity to learn from and collaborate with a diverse set of thought leaders. Interaction with other NCEAS residents and other visiting working group members will provide additional research opportunities and networking.

RESIDENCY AT NCEAS: NCEAS is located in scenic downtown Santa Barbara, California. The Center is known for fostering interaction and collaboration, a characteristic that leads to the success of its visiting scientists. NCEAS has a growing and thriving community of postdocs, resident scientists, and analysts, and frequent influx of leading scientists and practitioners from around the world participating in working group projects. We expect that postdocs will contribute their knowledge, interests, and

enthusiasm to the intellectual atmosphere. The postdoc should anticipate spending the vast majority of time in residence at the Center.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Minimum

- Ph.D. in ecology, environmental science, natural resource management and/or economics, or related disciplines

Additional

- Strong analytical and modeling background
- Ability to review and synthesize large amounts of literature and complex information
- Knowledge in policy, economics, and/or other social science relevant to food systems and environmental stressors
- Ability to design, manage, and help lead workshops to bring disparate groups to consensus
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Outstanding organizational skills
- Ability to take initiative and work independently and as part of a team

Desired

- Strong publication record
- Experience working with groups outside of academia (industry, NGOs, etc.)

TERM OF APPOINTMENT: Two years, with the potential for a third year pending funding and evaluation of performance.

SALARY RANGE: \$48,216/year - \$57,000/year, commensurate with qualifications and experience. Full benefits package included.

POSITION AVAILABLE: Start date as soon as possible and no later than June 2018.

TO APPLY: Send application materials to Ben Halpern at halpern@nceas.ucsb.edu.

Required Documents to Apply:

- 1) Curriculum Vitae
- 2) A cover letter
- 3) A one-page statement of research interests

4) A pre-proposal (3 pages maximum) describing an independent project that links the key theme(s) of the project and the applicants research interests. Independent projects cannot be field-based.

5) Contact information for three references

CLOSING DATE: Preference will be given to applications received by **January 5, 2018**. Position is open until filled.

The department is especially interested in candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community through research, teaching and service.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.