

Postdoctoral scholar in a social-ecological framework for restoration under climate change  
Department of Environmental Science & Policy, UC Davis

### **Application window**

Open date: January 9, 2023

Review date: February 28, 2023

Applications will continue to be accepted until this date, but those received after the review date will only be considered if the position has not yet been filled.

### **Position description**

Postdoctoral Scholar Opportunity at University of California, Davis  
co-PIs: Marissa Baskett, Tyler Scott, Michael Springborn  
Department of Environmental Science and Policy

We are seeking a postdoctoral scholar to join our project on “Kelp Restoration as an Integrated Socio-Ecological System (Kelp RISES): management decision-making in a changing climate”, supported by an NSF grant from the program in Dynamics of Integrated Socio-Environmental Systems (DISES). This project explores the question of how different management approaches might account for ongoing climate change. Our team is integrating approaches from social science, ecology, oceanography, bioeconomic modeling, network analysis, and decision-support theory. Our focus is on California kelp forest systems, where current restoration activities provide an opportunity to inform and support management decision-making. Further information on project activities and members is available at our project website: <https://marinescience.ucdavis.edu/research-programs/conservation/kelp-restoration> and NSF public abstract: [https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\\_ID=2108002](https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=2108002) .

Depending on their expertise and interests, the postdoctoral scholar will develop and conduct relevant research using one or more of the disciplinary approaches noted above.

Example topics include, but are not limited to:

- developing a social-ecological framework for restoration under climate change.
- understanding the interaction and feedback between social system capabilities and potential restoration actions that might occur on different time scales.
- examining the relative efficacy of different decision-support tools and utility of different sources of information for different members of the community.
- exploring how research feeds back into community needs and what determines effective science-policy integration.

The postdoctoral scholar will also focus, in part, on integrating the multiple project components through quantitative and synthetic approaches.

While all project members will be engaged with the postdoctoral scholar, the primary mentors will be [Marissa Baskett](#), [Tyler Scott](#), and [Michael Springborn](#).

## Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the postdoctoral scholar will be to:

- Develop and disseminate integrative project products, both in terms of scientific journal articles and public-facing products, that connect multiple project pieces.
- Assist with project management.
- Collaborate with multiple project members, including graduate students.
- Engage with agency project partners and community members.

The preferred start date is April, 2023, with flexibility for a later start as mutually agreed upon. The postdoctoral appointment will be two years. Anticipated annual [salary ranges](#) (with [recent adjustments](#)) from approx. \$58,900 to \$71,000 and depending on experience. As a postdoctoral scholar, 20% of your time can be allocated to self-directed work.

## Qualifications

Basic/minimum qualifications:

- An interest in social-ecological systems theory, broadly defined, with a PhD in a related field by the start date. Applicants might either be social scientists with an interest in connecting to natural science or natural scientists with an interest in connecting to social science.
- Demonstrated quantitative or computational skills. Examples include, but are not limited to, network modeling and analysis, bioeconomic modeling, coupled human-natural system modeling, applied ecological modeling, structured decision-making frameworks, decision-support modeling or analysis, and/or data-model integration approaches such as Bayesian hierarchical modeling.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and lead the development and publication of research results.
- Demonstrated writing & communication skills.

Preferred qualifications:

- Experience in engaging in multidisciplinary collaboration rooted in the applicant's disciplinary knowledge.
- Experience in science communication and outreach.
- Experience in community-engaged research.
- Experience in project management.
- Mentorship experience, such as mentorship of undergraduate researchers.

## Application requirements

To apply please submit:

- Cover letter, maximum two pages, that includes:
  - your research accomplishments,
  - any other relevant training, skills, experience,

- why you are interested in this position,
- your future career interests, and
- your anticipated start date.
- A CV.
- Contact information for three references.
- A writing sample, whether a published or draft manuscript.

Please send all materials by email to [mlbaskett@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mlbaskett@ucdavis.edu) with the subject line “Kelp RISES postdoc application”.

### **Contact**

Marissa Baskett: [mlbaskett@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mlbaskett@ucdavis.edu)

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Michael Springborn: [mspringborn@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mspringborn@ucdavis.edu)

### **UC Davis Notifications**

The University of California, Davis, is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer with a strong institutional commitment to the development of a climate that supports equality of opportunity and respect for differences. UC Davis is a smoke and tobacco free campus.