A postdoctoral scholar position is available in Prof. Marissa Baskett’s lab (http://www.des.ucdavis.edu/faculty/baskett/) in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy at the University of California, Davis. The position is part of a National Science Foundation grant on “A framework for species conservation by managed relocation: quantifying risks, uncertainties, and alternatives” (public summary available at https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1655475). The central goal of this project is to quantify how the potential benefits and risks of managed relocation (purposeful movement to support species responses to climate change), as compared to traditional conservation approaches of protection and restoration, depend on the sources of uncertainty and the decision-making process. The project will entail two modeling frameworks: (1) a metacommunity framework that quantifies risks and benefits of assisted migration, i.e. moving species beyond their historical range, and (2) a coupled demographic-genetic framework that quantifies risks and benefits of assisted gene flow, i.e. moving genotypes within a species’ range to promote local adaptation. Through partnerships with academic and government agency scientists, the project team will apply the modeling frameworks to forests, herbaceous species, corals, and salmonids. The postdoctoral scholar will take a leading role in either the metacommunity or the quantitative genetic modeling framework, dependent on his or her expertise.

Requirements include: (1) a PhD in ecology and evolutionary biology, applied mathematics, or a related field, (2) strong quantitative and programming skills with experience in dynamical population modeling, and (3) proven written and verbal communication skills. Particular consideration will be given to those with experience and expertise in any of (a) metacommunity or quantitative genetic modeling, (b) at least one of the example systems listed above, (c) data-model integration, (d) the role of uncertainty in structured decision-making, and (e) use-inspired basic science with academia-agency partnerships. The preferred start date is in the summer or early fall of 2017; exact start date flexible. The position will start with a one-year appointment, with 1-2 additional years of possible renewal.

To apply, please send: (1) a CV, (2) a cover letter including anticipated start date, (3) a statement of research experience and interests as they relate to the position, (4) one sample publication, and (5) contact information for three references. Email all application materials to mlbaskett@ucdavis.edu with the subject “Application: managed relocation postdoc”. Review of applications will begin on May 22 2017, and the position will remain open until filled.

Please direct any inquiries to Marissa Baskett, mlbaskett@ucdavis.edu, 530-752-1579.

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