Utah State University
Postdoctoral Fellow II in Quantitative Population Ecology



Location: Utah State University, Logan, UT
Salary: $62,000-65,000/yr depending on experience, plus benefits
Start Date: Spring 2025 preferred, but flexible

Position Summary
We seek a Postdoctoral Fellow II in Quantitative Population Ecology in the Utah State University Department of Wildland Resources. This is a two- to three-year position studying the population trends and management of waterbirds in the Great Salt Lake. The goals of the project are: 1) to determine the effects of changing water, habitat, and food resources on population trends of waterbirds in the Great Salt Lake; and 2) to evaluate dynamic and adaptive management strategies for waterbirds across spatiotemporal scales. The successful candidate will use long-term survey data collected by the Great Salt Lake Ecosystem Program from 1997-current across 24 survey units within the lake, and remote sensing tools to understand water and habitat change. The focus of the project will be to build spatially-explicit Bayesian hierarchical models to analyze and project waterbird populations over time and space, and how they are influenced by resources and management. The project includes opportunities for engaging with collaborators at the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Audubon Society, and Sageland Collaborative, as well as mentoring graduate and undergraduate students.

The position will ideally be located in Logan, UT, on the main campus of Utah State University, but fully remote-work will be considered for exceptional candidates within the U.S. This is a full-time, Postdoctoral Fellow position with salary depending on experience (~$62,000-65,000 per year), and includes full benefits (13 paid holidays, 22 days of paid leave and 12 days of sick leave per year, competitive health benefits packages, and a fully-vested 14.2% employer retirement contribution). This Postdoctoral position will be available for an initial duration of one year with potential for extension for a second and third year depending on performance.

USU Collaborators: Dr. T.J. Clark-Wolf, Dr. Dave Dahlgren, USU Department of Wildland Resources; and Dr. Erica Stuber, USGS UT Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit

Minimum Qualifications
- Applicants must have a PhD in Ecology, Biology, or a related field with a strong quantitative background
- Evidence of creativity, productivity, and strong oral/written communication skills

- Ability to work collaboratively with agency, non-profit, and academic scientists

Preferred Qualifications

- Background in Bayesian statistics, implemented in JAGS, Nimble, Stan, etc.
- Proficiency in ecological modeling, data analysis, and working with large datasets
- Record of success conducting research, evidenced by publication in peer-reviewed journals

To Apply:
Submit all application materials here: <https://careers-usu.icims.com/jobs/8659/job>
Please include: 1) your CV, 2) a maximum 2-page cover letter indicating how you meet the qualifications of the position, why you are interested in this position specifically, how this position might support your career goals, and why you might be a good fit for this project, and 3) contact information for three (3) professional references willing to provide letters of reference. Letters will only be requested for a short-list of applicants.

We will begin reviewing on January 22, 2025 and leave open the position until filled.

Questions about this position can be directed to: T.J. Clark-Wolf: t.j.clark-wolf <at> usu.edu

Utah State University is a Research I (Extensive Doctoral) land-grant institution with a student body of over 24,000, 8 academic colleges, a school of Graduate Studies, and diverse research programs. The main campus is located in Logan, a community of 100,000 people. Logan is 85 miles north of Salt Lake City in scenic Cache Valley, a semi-rural mountain basin with nearby ski resorts, lakes, rivers, and mountains providing many recreational opportunities. The area has a low cost of living and provides a high quality of life. Learn more about Logan, UT.

We are committed to cultivating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community where different perspectives, values, cultures, and identities are acknowledged, welcomed, and valued. We seek to recruit, hire, and retain people from all walks of life who will champion excellence in education, research, discovery, outreach, and service. We believe that promoting a strong sense of community and belonging empowers and engages all members of USU to thrive and be successful. Learn more about USU.