

Call for NEON Postdoctoral Fellows (3)

The National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) program, solely funded by the National Science Foundation and operated by Battelle, is currently seeking three (3) Postdoctoral Fellows to contribute to its scientific mission through both advancement of science and engagement of the user community. NEON Postdoctoral Fellows will receive funding for a period of two years, contingent on successful performance and available funding. The Postdoctoral Fellows will be expected to leverage NEON data in collaboration with NEON staff and community contributors to generate scientific outcomes and peer-reviewed publications, while engaging the scientific community in NEON data use and potentially generating new tools to facilitate use of NEON data. The Postdoctoral Fellows will also be expected to prepare and follow an individual professional development plan to further career goals, increase understanding of working with large and diverse datasets, and support NEON's goal of broadening its user community.

These positions are ideally suited for researchers with interests in open, reproducible data science, cross-scale approaches, and/or scientific engagement. Although proposals related to any aspect of NEON science are invited, **areas of particular interest for NEON** include: synthesis of continental-scale phenology or biodiversity datasets to enable ecological forecasting, scaling of woody plant biomass and productivity, integration of disparate data streams across the Observatory (e.g., integrating data from the Airborne Observation Platform with data from the Terrestrial or Aquatic Observation Systems), and increasing diversity and inclusion in NEON user communities. NEON scientists suited to the Fellows' areas of interest will be identified, and one will be designated as an internal NEON mentor for each Fellow. Fellows will have access to Battelle's training opportunities in project and personnel management, as desired. Fellows are expected to be based at the NEON Headquarters in **Boulder, CO**, and should identify an external **Collaborating Mentor and their institution** in the application. Travel funds to interact with the Collaborating Mentor and to attend conferences will be provided to the Fellow.

NEON is a 30+ year project dedicated to understanding how changes in climate, land use and invasive species impact ecology. The Observatory's scientists and engineers are collecting a comprehensive range of ecological data on a continental scale across 20 eco-climatic domains representing US ecosystems. Our teams use cutting-edge technology, including an airborne observation platform that captures images of regional landscapes and vegetation; mobile, relocatable, and fixed data collection sites with automated ground sensors to monitor soil and atmosphere; and trained field crews who observe and sample populations of diverse organisms and collect soil and water data. The Observatory includes more than 500+ personnel and is the first of its kind designed to detect and enable understanding and forecasting of ecological change at continental scales.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Lead the execution of complex analyses of NEON data in collaboration with NEON scientists and other discipline-specific experts
- Build partnerships with college/university faculty, researchers, federal/state agency scientists, and other stakeholders to enhance NEON data delivery, visibility, and/or scientific credibility
- Represent the NEON program at conferences, meetings and other appropriate events to network, share resources, and establish and maintain partnerships

- Develop, test and implement software tools and/or packages that can be used to process and/or analyze NEON data, both for internal NEON use and to facilitate NEON data use by the scientific community

Required Qualifications

- Ph.D. in an ecological or environmental science (e.g., ecology, conservation, biometeorology, ecosystem science, atmospheric modeling), data science, or a related field
- Experience with complex data analyses and modeling
- Ability to speak in public to a diversity of audiences including scientists, science educators, college/university faculty, college-level students, and funding agency program directors
- Strong problem solving and analytical skills
- Proven ability to write and edit scientific literature or content for public delivery
- Proven ability to plan and conduct independent research projects from beginning to end

Preferred Qualifications

- Proficient programmer in interpreter languages (e.g., R or Python)
- Experience working with large, publicly available datasets
- Experience working on collaborative scientific projects (i.e., those involving cross-disciplinary or cross-institutional collaborations)
- Experience working with online collaboration and development tools, such as Trello, GitHub, JupyterHub, DockerHub

Application Details

Application deadline is May 8, 2020, midnight PST. Late applications will not be accepted.

For complete application details and application link, please see

<https://neonscience.org/neon-postdoctoral-fellows>

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