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2021-22 Oregon Sea Grant/Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) Fellowship

Application Deadline: October 15, 2021 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time

Please note that due to the evolving COVID-19 situation, projects may need to be modified in scope or timing. We will monitor the situation and communicate accordingly.

The Oregon Sea Grant (OSG) College Program is soliciting applications for the 2021-22 Oregon Sea Grant/Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) Fellowship. This fellowship position will support DEQ's activities related to Oregon's Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia policy, particularly focusing on collaboration with other federal and state agencies and academia by assisting with the convening and facilitation of a scientific technical workgroup. This workgroup's charge will be to define and develop scientifically-supported methodologies for assessing OAH impacts in marine territorial waters that can be used to carry out water quality assessments within DEQ's Clean Water Act assessment program. The OAH Fellowship will place one fellow with an anticipated start-date of November 15, 2021. This is a **full time, one-year opportunity** with the possibility for extension. This position is based in Portland or Salem, OR (both remote and in-office working are possibilities depending on the State and DEQ's policy at the time of the fellowship). The full-time fellowship position description is included at the end of this document.

Eligible Applicants

Open to individuals that are pursuing or have recently completed a post-graduate degree (Masters, PhD, or other related professional degrees) from any university or college (US or international) with interest and experience in coastal policy. Preference will be given to those who will have completed their degree by the start of the fellowship—as a full-time position, the full benefits of this opportunity may be achieved most effectively post-graduation. Applicants must demonstrate a strong interest and experience in marine/coastal natural resource policy, OAH, or other related fields, with priority given to applicants with Pacific Coast-specific knowledge. Applicants must be eligible to work in the US without additional sponsorship prior to the start of this fellowship.

The Oregon Sea Grant Scholars Program has focused on broadening participation and diversity by restructuring our recruitment and review processes to make them more equitable. Our intent is to be more inclusive of applicants from various cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds with unique lived experiences, skills and interests; including applicants that may have had fewer opportunities in the marine policy field. In line with this initiative, applicants will have the opportunity to demonstrate how their experience with diverse stakeholder groups and communities might apply to this fellowship, and how they think this fellowship will advance their long-term career goals. Learn more about Oregon Sea Grant's justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI) work: <https://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/jedi>

Schedule of Dates:

- Submit intent to apply to eseagrant@oregonstate.edu by October 8, 2021 (strongly preferred) – Include "OSG OAH Fellowship" in the subject line.
- **Application due: Friday October 15, 2021 by 5:00 pm PST**
- Interviews: Early November
- Decision announced: Anticipated by November 8, 2021
- Fellowship begins: Anticipated on November 15, 2021
- Period of fellowship: one year

Fellowship Award

The length of assignment is expected to be for one year. The official start date of the fellowship can be flexible to accommodate recipient needs, but November 15 is strongly preferred. The fellowship will provide at least \$42,000 for the year in monthly stipend payments to cover expenses during the full-time fellowship, which may include fellowship related professional development, educational supplies, health insurance, and travel / communication expenses. All Oregon Sea Grant fellows are required to have health insurance.

How to Apply

Oregon Sea Grant uses eSeaGrant for fellowship application submissions. In order to access this system, please email eseagrant@oregonstate.edu declaring your interest in applying with "OSG OAH Fellowship" in the subject line. Email registration one week prior (October 8) to the application deadline is strongly preferred. Stating your interest does not obligate you to apply. Once you submit your interest in this fellowship, an eSeaGrant account will be created for you. All components of your application, including letters of recommendation, will be submitted through this system. This is a fairly new system that may take some time to learn how to navigate, and we are here to provide assistance as needed; however, please do not wait until the last minute to apply. Your completed application **must be submitted in eSeaGrant by the deadline** to be considered for this opportunity.

Application Requirements

Incomplete and late applications and applications that do not follow the formatting guidelines will not be considered. A complete application will include the following four (4) elements:

1. A current résumé or curriculum vitae (CV). The résumé/CV must be in 12 point font with 1" margins, must not exceed two (2) pages in length, and must include the following:
 - name and contact information (including address, phone number, and email);
 - education history, including current or final GPA;
 - work and volunteer history;
 - any publications;
 - if applicable: any funding support, either current or pending, and any previous awards; and,
 - any other résumé /CV information you wish the reviewers to consider.
2. A personal narrative statement. This statement should be your original, written work. Any background materials should be referenced and cited appropriately. The "References Cited" do not count towards the page limit. Please contact us with any questions. The statement must be in 12 point font with 1" margins, use 1.5 line spacing, must not exceed three (3) pages in length, and should describe the following:
 - Your interest in and experience with coastal/marine policy work, or other related fields, particularly Pacific Coast specific knowledge of ocean acidification and hypoxia
 - How the fellowship will advance you towards your future career goals
 - Your experience interacting with diverse communities or stakeholder groups and how this experience will help you succeed as a fellow
 - How you would address the purposes and duties of the Fellowship (refer to specific skills provided on the last page of this Request for Applications)
3. Clear, scanned copies of up-to-date transcripts for all graduate **and** undergraduate coursework. At the application stage, unofficial copies are acceptable. If you are selected for this fellowship, official transcripts will be required at that time. If possible, please redact your birthdate, social security number,

and/or student ID number, if included on your transcript. Please do not have these sent separately, but include the copies of your transcripts with your application.

4. Two letters of recommendation (one must be from your graduate school major professor or advisor). The second letter of recommendation can come from anyone of your choosing familiar with your abilities. The applicant will request letters of recommendation directly through the eSeaGrant system, and the letter writer will upload their digital letter of recommendation onto eSeaGrant. Make sure your recommendation writers have sufficient time to get the letter to us by or before the application deadline; **letters of recommendation must arrive by the application deadline for the application to be considered.**

Selection Process

A selection team, typically comprised of Oregon Sea Grant staff, a member of the Oregon Sea Grant Advisory Council and another party (such as faculty or agency staff), evaluates each candidate's submitted written material based on these criteria: academic ability; communications skills; diversity and relevance of academic background to the available fellowship opportunity; additional qualifying experience (e.g., relevant work experience); support of recommendation letter writers; benefit of the fellowship to applicant's long term goals; experience interacting with diverse stakeholder groups or communities; and interest in and experience with Pacific Coast ocean acidification and hypoxia, or another related field.

Top candidates will be interviewed in early-November. Interviews will be conducted by members of the selection team and by the Oregon Sea Grant director. The one-year long fellowship is scheduled to begin on November 15, 2021, with the specific start date dependent on the arrangement between the fellow and the host.

Find out more about past Oregon Sea Grant graduate Fellows here:

<https://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/fellowships/sea-grant-scholars>

Additional Information

Oregon Sea Grant strongly discourages any contact between applicants and potential mentors before the interview process.

The selected fellow must be eligible to work in the US without additional sponsorship by the start-date of this fellowship.

Any questions related to this fellowship can be directed to the following:

Sarah Kolesar
Research and Scholars Program Leader
sarah.kolesar@oregonstate.edu

Stephanie Ichien
Research and Scholars Program Coordinator
Stephanie.ichien@oregonstate.edu

**Oregon Sea Grant/Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH)
Fellowship
Position Description 2021**

Host Office: Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) – Water Quality Division

Position Title: Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) Marine Assessment Policy Fellow

Position Location: Portland or Salem, OR (Both remote and in-office working are possibilities depending on the State and DEQ's policy at the time of the fellowship)

Program Overview: The mission of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is to be a leader in restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, water and land. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality strives to create an inclusive environment that welcomes and values diversity. We foster fairness, equity, and inclusion.

The Water Quality Division works with DEQ's staff in its three regions and the Laboratory to develop and implement programs to protect and enhance the quality of the waters of the state to ensure public health and the environment are protected. The Water Quality Assessment program conducts a statewide water quality assessment and assembles a biennial status report on Oregon's water quality through collaboration between Headquarters and laboratory staff.

This fellowship position will support DEQ's activities related to Oregon's Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) policy, particularly focusing on collaboration with other federal and state agencies and academia by assisting with the convening and facilitation of a scientific technical workgroup. This workgroup's charge will be to define and develop scientifically-supported methodologies for assessing OAH impacts in marine territorial waters that can be used to carry out water quality assessments within DEQ's Clean Water Act assessment program.

How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy: Oregon was one of the first places in the world to observe direct OAH impacts. As OAH continues to intensify, there are now clear signs that OAH is undermining Oregon's iconic fisheries, ecosystems, and coastal communities.

Oregon DEQ's biennial Integrated Report assesses water quality across the state and provides a snapshot of the current status of water quality in Oregon. Waterbodies where data show that water quality standards are not met are included on the state's Clean Water Act section 303(d) list of impaired waters.

Oregon DEQ does not currently have a methodology for assessing OAH impacts in marine territorial waters, and there is not a clear consensus of what would constitute an impairment listing within this program. DEQ intends to fill this current methodology gap through scientific and technical expertise to identify what constitutes sufficient evidence to determine an aquatic life use impairment within Oregon's territorial waters. Oregon DEQ is convening a technical workgroup to assist with development of Clean Water Act assessment methodologies that accurately capture and quantify OAH impacts in Oregon's territorial waters.

The objective of the technical workgroup is to assist DEQ in developing a methodology to assess Oregon's territorial waters for ocean acidification and hypoxia impacts, which will be captured in its Integrated Report.

This fellowship position will support DEQ's activities identified in Oregon's OAH Action Plan, particularly focusing on collaboration with other federal and state agencies and academia by assisting with the convening and

facilitation of a scientific technical workgroup to define a methodology for assessing OAH impacts in marine territorial waters.

Anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope: The fellow's day-to-day activities include: (1) Coordinate and communicate with OAH technical workgroup members and individuals identified within other federal and state agencies and academic institutions; (2) Literature review and data compilation; (3) Data analysis and interpretation; (4) Schedule four to five workgroup meetings over the next 12 months; (5) Conduct day-to-day tasks as needed in order to support the coordination and preparation for these workgroup meetings; (6) Prepare meeting materials and summarize meeting discussions and conclusions; (7) Support the facilitation of the technical workgroup meetings; (8) Research and summarize ocean acidification and hypoxia issues as needed; (9) Develop recommendations for additional data collection to fill information gaps and meet Clean Water Act needs; (10) Assist DEQ staff in developing agendas, coordinating and facilitating workgroup meetings, preparing reports, white papers and other work products for the OAH technical workgroup; and (11) Develop and provide OAH-related informational materials, fact-sheets, FAQ documents, and white papers for DEQ website and informational updates.

Approximate breakdown of field/office work: The fellow's time will largely be working in the office but could include traveling within Oregon to attend meetings.

List the communities or stakeholders with which the fellow may engage:

- Participating in discussions with the OAH Scientific technical workgroup.
- Preparing communications to and participating in discussions with state agencies including Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), federal agencies, national and regional NGOs, Oregon Watershed Councils.
- Participating in meetings with the Oregon Ocean Monitoring group (OOMG) – Group of Oregon focused academics (Oregon State University [OSU], University of Oregon [UO], Portland State University [PSU]).
- Summarizing information from the Oregon OAH Coordinating Council – Legislatively created Council with members from State agencies, tribal government, conservation interests, fishing interests, shellfish interests, Oregon Ocean Science Trust, academia, and the Governors' office.
- Summarizing information generated from the Pacific Coast Collaborative (PCC), OA Sub-Committee – Small group of staff and agency personnel from the State/Provisional governments of British Columbia, Canada, Washington State, Oregon, and California.

Desired products from the fellow:

- Policy documents – including white papers and report text/graphics from the workgroup.
- Meeting materials – including meeting summaries, fact sheets and talking points from workgroup meetings.
- Website content and data summarization of OAH Technical Work Groups.
- Summary report on assessment methodology and recommendations for determining OAH impacts in Oregon's territorial waters from the technical workgroup.

Potential benefits of this position to the fellow:

- Opportunity to network with organizations and Oregonians who are passionate about ocean and climate change.
- Experience with meeting and workgroup development, coordination, and facilitation to achieve a specified outcome.
- Coordination with DEQ Headquarters and laboratory staff for policy development.
- Coordination with other State of Oregon agencies involved in OAH related activities.

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- Exposure to local, regional, national, and international government working groups on ocean acidification and hypoxia.
- First-hand experience with the processes involved in marine and Clean Water Act policy formulation and implementation.
- Production of a summary report on methods and recommendations for determining OAH impacts.
- Interaction with scientists and seafood industry members who are engaged in OAH and nearshore monitoring in Oregon and the West Coast.
- Development of public outreach materials and communication skills.
- Opportunity to network with scientists and professionals who have expertise and interest in ocean acidification and hypoxia.
- Opportunity to develop and tailor communication materials to diverse audiences.
- Opportunity to build facilitation and coordination skills.

Required skills:

- Excellent communication skills (both oral and written)
- Experience working on environmental science and policy issues
- Experience with meeting organization and coordination
- Analytical thinking skills
- Familiarity with Pacific Northwest marine ecosystems and policy

Preferred skills:

- Experience developing/producing meeting materials and white papers
- Experience in data analysis
- Familiarity with Clean Water Act
- Experience with climate and ocean change issues
- Experience working with diverse, multidisciplinary groups