West Coast Ocean Alliance Fellowship
Host Descriptions 2023-2024

About the West Coast Ocean Alliance Fellowship: The West Coast Ocean Alliance Fellowship program, administered by Oregon Sea Grant, places students and graduates a Tribal, state, or federal agency in Washington, Oregon, or California. This fellowship is intended to give the fellow first-hand experience in ocean policy and planning. For additional details visit: https://beav.es/4zz

Please note, the Oregon Sea Grant Scholars Program is focused on broadening participation and diversity by restructuring our recruitment and review processes to be more equitable. Our intent is to be 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Position Title</th>
<th>Host Office</th>
<th>Location*</th>
<th>Page #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ocean Science and Policy Fellow</td>
<td>The Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria</td>
<td>Sonoma County, CA°</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sustainable Energy/Community Development Fellow</td>
<td>Blue Lake Rancheria, Sustainability and Community Development Department</td>
<td>Blue Lake, CA°</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Oregon Ocean Data Fellow</td>
<td>Oregon Coastal Management Program within the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development</td>
<td>Salem or Portland, OR^</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Offshore Wind Marine Spatial Planning Assistant</td>
<td>WA Dept Ecology</td>
<td>Lacey, WA^</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>NOAA West Coast Offshore Wind Team Support Lead</td>
<td>NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service - West Coast Region</td>
<td>OR, WA, or CA^</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>GIS Content Creator, NOAA Fisheries West Coast Offshore Wind Team</td>
<td>NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service - Northwest Fisheries Science Center</td>
<td>Newport, OR or Seattle, WA °^</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>NOAA West Coast Aquaculture Fellow</td>
<td>NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service - West Coast Region</td>
<td>Seattle, Lacey, or Long Beach, WA °^</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Marine Protection and Research Fellow</td>
<td>EPA Region 9 Wetlands and Oceans Section</td>
<td>San Francisco or Los Angeles, CA°</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>West Coast Ocean Health Dashboard Developer</td>
<td>Southern California Coastal Water Research Project</td>
<td>Costa Mesa, CA</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Additional location details are available in the body of each position description
^ Remote option available
° Hybrid option available

For the 2023-2024 Fellowship, funding is available to fill five positions.
Position 1: Ocean Science and Policy Fellow

Office: The Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria, Department of Environmental Planning
Position Title: Ocean Science and Policy Fellow
Position Location: Remote with some in-person preferred to support monitoring and data collection projects led by the Tribe
Special Consideration: Tribal members are preferred

Program Overview: The Kashia Band of Pomo Indians were the first inhabitants of the coastal Sonoma County area around Fort Ross. The Kashia Band of Pomo Indians has approximately 860 members, with the majority of Tribal members residing in Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake and Napa Counties which is the service area for the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of Stewarts point Rancheria. The Dept. of Environmental Planning’s mission is to protect the Rancheria’s air, land and water from pollution and to provide for the health and safety of its residents through a cleaner environment. The Kashia Band of Pomo Indians and its Environmental Department is in the process of developing a marine monitoring program.

How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy: This position will assist the Kashia Department of Environmental Planning in building some of the strategic base components of a Marine Monitoring Program and generally support a greater understanding of current ocean and coastal conditions providing insights into marine issues. The fellow will also assist in setting up monitoring platforms to gather and store marine data in an organized fashion.

Summary of the fellow’s anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope: The Fellow will assist the Department in at least four areas/topics: #1: Organizing marine monitoring data that has been collected and will be collected throughout the year. #2: Research and put together data on management activities/plans that have occurred on riparian areas to improve the release and return of catadromous fish populations. #3: Research and put together data for a report on off-shore wind activity as it could impact Tribes and tribal liveways and key marine resources the tribe relies upon. #4: Support current staff work on building vulnerability assessment maps for the marine ecosystem as it may impact Kashia.

The fellow will conduct online research to gather and compile information regarding topics of interest to the Tribe which will further develop the Tribe’s Marine Monitoring Program. Activities will consist of reviewing current marine data collected by the Tribe, organizing data and identifying data management options for current and future data. The Fellow may participate in marine survey/sampling events which are conducted every month or throughout the year. Depending on the fellow’s familiarity with ArcGIS, mapping skills can be developed to aid in the creation of marine vulnerability assessment maps using ArcGIS and/or ArcGIS Pro.

Approximate breakdown of field/office work: A majority of work will be conducted in the office and/or can be conducted remotely.

The communities or stakeholders with which the fellow may engage:

- Tribal Community
- Tribal Council
**Desired products from the fellow:**
- Assessment of current and expected marine data and options for data management
- Report identifying riparian management activities which support healthy ocean ecosystems and catadromous fish populations
- Report identifying impacts of offshore wind activity to the Tribe and key marine species
- Series of vulnerability assessment maps on Tribal concerns in the marine ecosystem
- A presentation (virtual or in-person) to the WCOA membership on Fellow’s project(s)
- One blog post (due in the last month of the Fellowship) about the Fellow’s experience

**Potential benefits of this position to the fellow:**
- Be a part of a growing tribal marine program.
- Opportunity to learn about 3-D intertidal modeling and using a drone to conduct marine surveys.
- Networking with Tribal, Federal, and State governments addressing coastal and ocean issues on the West Coast
- Attendance of WCOA in-person and virtual meetings
- Opportunity to amplify your work regionally, along the West Coast

**Skills required:**
- No degree required
  - If no degree, must be enrolled in college or junior college or Tribal college
- Computer skills in operation of computer and associated programs. (ArcGIS)
- Valid driver license.
- Good communication - verbal and written.
- Good organization.

**Skills preferred:**
- Knowledge of Kashia culture, history, and government
- Knowledge of Tribal histories in the United States, regulations
Position 2: Sustainable Energy/Community Development Fellow

**Office:** Blue Lake Rancheria, Sustainability and Community Development Department  
**Position Title:** Sustainable Energy/Community Development Fellow  
**Position Location:** Hybrid (In-Person / Remote) in Blue Lake, CA. This position will be a hybrid position meaning that it is possible for a Fellow to complete deliverables from a remote location so long as the Fellow is willing to travel to California’s North Coast region periodically to ensure they have the opportunity to understand the local and political landscape, develop relationships with partners and be able to conduct research activities with respect to the Redwood Region and its Tribal Nations. It would be expected that the Fellow be on the North Coast at least three weeks out of each calendar year the Fellowship is offered.  
**Special Consideration:** Tribal affiliation preferred

**Program Overview:** The Innovator Fellow will support Blue Lake Rancheria Tribal Government (BLR) to further understand opportunities for programs and the various roles of the different entities that are involved in the offshore wind industry cluster (e.g., wind farms, electrical transmission, port development, ecosystem mitigation, management, monitoring, and research, and other industries as applicable), on the West Coast, and research related policy, permitting structures (e.g., CEQA / NEPA) and processes, and opportunities for Tribal Government leadership and co-management roles. Further, the Fellow will support BLR staff in design of and engagement with marine and Mad River watershed environments and related workforce development programs tailored for Tribal nations. The Fellow may also support other efforts related to developing climate resilience data and solutions for the Pacific Coast.

**How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy:** The development of floating offshore wind (Offshore Wind) energy at scale in the Pacific Ocean is a novel technology in a new location, and requires significant capacity to engage on ecosystem baseline data, research, and monitoring activities, and develop opportunities for careers and increasing skill sets needed to support the adaptive management of this new green industrial deployment. The Fellow would assist as a researcher to blend policy, interdisciplinary study of this new industry cluster, and topics that balance its impacts and benefits in terms of programs, regulatory structures, and the intersection of policy, data, and applied science. Further, this region has the fastest rate of sea level rise on the West Coast, ocean acidification and deoxygenation, ocean temperature increases, and changes in ocean and Humboldt Bay habitats which are all impacting people and other species, including cultural resources of the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe (BLR). BLR is a co-manager of the Mad River watershed which empties into the Pacific Ocean, with instream flow considerations and significant estuarine environments that are increasing in importance for threatened and endangered species that are anadromous. Research on these topics is useful as BLR designs its cultural, social, environmental, regulatory, and economic strategies over the next decade of projected regional growth.

**Summary of the fellow’s anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope:** Within a larger project scope of increasing climate resilience for the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe (BLR) and the region, the Fellow will support sustainability, community development, education, and environmental programs departments by researching data and various programmatic topics and components related to floating offshore wind energy in the Pacific Ocean and the intersectional components of that industry cluster. Day to day activities will include but not be limited to technical writing of white papers on various topics, in some cases adding citations to inform the cost / benefit.
analysis of certain initiatives or strategies. As two examples, the Fellow will 1) research workforce development, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship opportunities with respect to the offshore wind energy industry cluster and Pacific Ocean ecosystem adaptive management activities (e.g., protected species observer trainings and train the trainer for local replication) for organizational structures, SWOT analysis, and strategies for implementation by BLR and other Tribal Nations as applicable, and 2) research offshore wind transmission permitting requirements and cultural / environmental cost / benefit analyses, both offshore and onshore. The Fellow will assist with BLR events as a docent (with proper advance briefings and training). Further, the Fellow will assist BLR staff to match the Tribal Government’s priorities with funding opportunities available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL / IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), conducting initial screening of funding opportunities and tracking new funding announcements in Excel or other software program.

The Fellow will participate in regular WCOA meetings and meetings with BLR staff (sustainability, community development, education and/or environmental departments, as applicable). Additionally, the Fellow will be invited to regional summits or conferences. The Fellow will also be expected to share a final memo of summative analysis of lessons learned to appropriate BLR staff, regional Tribal network(s), and WCOA members, as well as offer suggestions for further inquiry.

**Approximate breakdown of field/office work:** The Fellow will be expected to manage their time independently for 75% of the time. This means engaging in research, presentation development, white papers, final memo etc. 25% of the Fellows’ time will come in the form of attending, participating and presenting in meetings, workshops, training, serving as a BLR event or meeting docent and more.

**The communities or stakeholders with which the fellow may engage:** WCOA members;
- Schatz Energy and Research Center (offshore wind design, engineering, transmission studies, environmental studies, efficiency, monitoring, etc);
- Five regional Tribal Nations (e.g., the Tribal Climate Resilience Network)
- Cal Poly Humboldt Natural Resources and Sciences College;
- College of the Redwoods;
- Redwood Coast Energy Authority;
- County of Humboldt;
- Offshore Wind developers and other supply chain participants;
- Blue Lake Rancheria sustainability, community development, environmental and education departments;
- and others as defined by the Primary and Secondary Mentors.

**Desired products from the fellow:**
- Spreadsheet of potential funding opportunities from the BIL/IIJA and IRA, and State of California as applicable
- Presentation of Tribal benefits associated with the Inflation Reduction Act and other potential funding opportunities
- Several two- to five-page white papers on various research topics as assigned e.g., one white paper every two weeks of the fellowship, sample topics may include:
  - Workforce development opportunities identification
    - Develop list of models, trainings, and curricula
    - Tribal apprenticeship and training (e.g., PSO) programs and opportunities

June 2023
- Offshore wind transmission permitting requirements and cultural/environmental cost/benefit analyses, both offshore and onshore
- Offshore Wind / Tribal Nation nexus opportunities report
  - Mad River / Pacific Ocean topics
    - Map/memo of public/private land ownership, regulatory, and advocacy entities, roles, responsibilities related to the Mad River watershed and estuary co-management
    - Support design of Mad River watershed programs and projects
- At least two presentations to Tribal network(s) on various research topics
- Final memo on Fellow’s work
- A presentation (virtual or in-person) to the WCOA membership on Fellow’s project(s);
- One blog post (due in the last month of the Fellowship) about the Fellow’s experience;
- Access to the Tribal network(s) presentations.

Potential benefits of this position to the fellow:
- Develop expertise of the Pacific Ocean floating offshore wind and related industry cluster, environmental, workforce development, permitting, policy and other components
- Build experience supporting the onboarding of offshore wind development in a rural/Tribal region
- Broaden community development and climate resilience solution-based skills, particularly within Tribal Nation and government contexts
- Become fluent in researching, organizing, and presenting highly-reliable information regarding climate resilience related to the Pacific Ocean and related strategies;
- Networking opportunities with federal, state, and Tribal governments;
- Conference and meeting attendance (Offshore Wind Summit, Tribal Summit);
- Practice writing technical memos with qualitative and quantitative data supporting a program or initiative cost/benefit analysis
- Networking with Tribal, Federal, and State governments addressing coastal and ocean issues on the West Coast;
- Attendance of WCOA in-person and virtual meetings
- Opportunity to amplify your work regionally, along the West Coast

Skills required:
- Graduate degree preferred (relevant work experience will be considered)
- Knowledge and experience of one or more of the following
  - Technical/professional writing (e.g., highly accurate reports, memos, presentations)
  - Marine policy
  - Marine science
  - Program/curriculum development
  - Engineering, climate science, or related technical background
  - General policy and permitting processes (e.g., NEPA, Section 106, CEQA)
- Effective research, writing, presentation and oral communication skills
- Interdisciplinary and critical thinking skills required

Skills preferred:
- Tribal affiliation
- Tribal government experience and/or policy advocacy
● Program / curriculum development
● Workforce development program design
● Environmental monitoring, data collection, research
● Data analysis
● Scholarly and/or policy research
Position 3: Oregon Ocean Data Fellow

Office: Oregon Coastal Management Program (OCMP) within the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
Position Title: Oregon Ocean Data Fellow
Position Location: A combination of remote and in-person (in Salem or Portland, OR). One day a week in the office minimum - Wednesdays preferred. The remaining work week schedule is flexible.

Program Overview: The Oregon Coastal Management Program (OCMP) works in partnership with local governments, state and federal agencies, tribes, community organizations, and more to ensure that Oregon’s coastal and ocean resources are managed, conserved, and developed consistent with statewide land use planning goals, state laws, and local land use regulations. The OCMP accomplishes much of its work through coordination, financial, and technical support for coastal resource planning.

How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy: This Fellowship will focus on data curation and use, which is integral to informing regional resource management, policy development, and ocean planning. Coastal decision-makers, researchers, and stakeholders use these resources to access data and decision-support tools they need to understand and address high-priority regional issues.

Summary of the fellow’s anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope: This position will work on collaborative, data-driven projects not only with the OCMP, but with the Oregon Ocean Science Trust, West Coast Ocean Data Portal (WCODP), and West Coast Ocean Alliance (WCOA). Specifically:

- Supporting the development of an Oregon Ocean Data Hub/Portal for hosting data generated through projects funded by the Trust – and related to ocean acidification and hypoxia and nearshore research. This position will lead the curation of data from funded projects into that new catalog and to make sure the new resource is connected to the WCODP.
- Serving as the Oregon data technical support person to help provide data to the WCODP in support of the Ocean Health Dashboard effort. This will include participation in WCODP calls focused on the indicator development process, review Oregon specific data available for use, and helping to ensure that Oregon data is correctly represented in regional indicator data products.
- Supporting the generation of information products to inform specific topics of interest to the WCOA – like creating thematic story maps of data relevant to offshore wind facility siting.
- Working to ensure Oregon’s data in the WCODP is kept up-to-date.
- Collectively, the Fellow’s work will ensure Oregon’s ocean and coastal data is shared regionally and accurately represented.

Approximate breakdown of field/office work: The fellow will spend a majority of their time in an office and/or telework setting. However, the fellow will also have the opportunity to travel with OCMP staff members to attend meetings, workshops, and other related events, such as WCOA in person meetings or summits. The breakdown of office to field work will be approximately 80%/20%.

The communities or stakeholders with which the fellow may engage:
- Tribal Nations in Oregon, Washington, and California
- Academic researchers
● State agencies
● Federal agencies
● Oregon Coastal and Ocean Information Network (OCOIN)

Desired products from the fellow:
● One or more communication products (such as story maps)
● A presentation (virtual or in-person) to the WCOA membership on Fellow’s project(s)
● One blog post (due in the last month of the Fellowship) about the Fellow’s experience

Potential benefits of this position to the fellow:
● Gain experience working in a state agency setting, coordinating with experts in marine resource science and management.
● Networking with Tribal, Federal, and State governments addressing coastal and ocean issues on the West Coast
● Attendance of WCOA in-person and virtual meetings
● Opportunity to amplify your work regionally, along the West Coast

Skills required:
● Ability to work independently
● Listening acuity and problem-solving skills
● GIS – proficiency with ArcGIS
● Technical writing and data analysis
● Ability to critically think and synthesize natural resources data
● Experience in communication and public speaking
● Degree: Master’s Degree or a Bachelor’s plus 2-4 years experience with GIS

Skills preferred:
● Familiarity with U.S. West Coast coastal and marine management issues
● Highly organized
● Creative and adaptable
● Experience developing outreach materials
● Familiarity with web content management systems
Position 4: Marine Spatial Planning Assistant

Office: Washington State Dept. of Ecology
Position Title: Marine Spatial Planning Assistant
Position Location: Lacey, WA / Remote; Currently, our section is in the office on Wednesdays and works remotely the rest of the week.

Program Overview: The Washington State Department of Ecology’s mission is to protect, preserve, and enhance Washington’s environment for current and future generations. Ecology has numerous program areas that include air quality, hazardous waste and toxics reduction, waste management, spills, water quality, shoreline management, and more.

This position would be located in the Shorelands and Environmental Assistance (SEA) Program, whose mission is to work in partnership with communities to support healthy watersheds and promote statewide environmental interests. The Coastal/Shorelands Section in SEA Program works to ensure that the shorelines, floodplains, and ocean waters are protected, restored, and managed consistent with state and local laws.

How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy: In recent years, the State of Washington completed a Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) that was developed to inform decision making for potential new ocean uses. Following the completion of the MSP, Ecology began integrating policies that were developed during the process into state and local planning efforts. In addition to implementation, now that the MSP is five years old, as are the MSP website and data viewer, there is a need to update the state’s MSP assets. This position would help address that need by assisting with the development of new outreach and education tools, including updates to the MSP website and data viewer. Simultaneously, this position will have ample opportunity to collaborate with various state, tribal, federal, and local entities that are working on marine, coastal, and ocean policy and planning.

Summary of the fellow’s anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope: This position would work closely with our Marine Policy Associate and Assistant Ocean Planner to implement the state’s Marine Spatial Plan, make updates to outreach and education products, and coordinate with similar regional efforts, including those of the West Coast Ocean Alliance and West Coast Ocean Data Portal. Much of this work would be done remotely, with regular virtual meetings with key staff. This position would also attend numerous ocean policy meetings, including those of the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council (WCMAC), and the State Ocean Caucus.

Approximate breakdown of field/office work: Most work will be done remotely, but one in-person day a week is required to collaborate with colleagues, unless special accommodations are needed. Typically, the Coastal/Shorelines Section works at Ecology HQ (Lacey) on Wednesdays.

The communities or stakeholders with which the fellow may engage:

- Engagement with WA coastal stakeholders and communities, including local fishermen, NGOs, elected officials, and other coastal management partners.
- Engagement with WA Coastal tribes.
- Coordinate with state and federal agencies, as needed.
Desired products from the fellow:
- Updates and new products to be included on the state’s MSP) website and data viewer.
- Depending on demand and interest, provide outreach and education to coastal communities regarding the MSP website and data viewer.
- A presentation (virtual or in-person) to the WCOA membership on Fellow’s project(s)
- At least one blog post about the Fellow’s experience
- WA State-focused offshore wind data and MSP products to be added to the West Coast Ocean Data Portal.

Potential benefits of this position to the fellow:
- Develop knowledge and expertise related to ocean policy and planning.
- Develop outreach and education skills.
- Develop communication skills.
- Attendance of WCMAC and State Ocean Caucus meetings.
- Network with Tribes, local, state, and federal agencies, and coastal stakeholders.
- Networking with Tribal, Federal, and State governments addressing coastal and ocean issues on the West Coast
- Attendance of WCOA in-person and virtual meetings
- Opportunity to amplify your work regionally, along the West Coast

Skills required:
- Operate computer, calculator, copy machine, telephone, printers
- Operate Microsoft Office Software, including Word, Excel, Outlook, SharePoint, MS TEAMS
- Ability to work and interact with a range of staff, and stakeholders with a variety of interests and concerns.
- Ability to efficiently and independently manage workloads and complete deliverables in a timely manner.

Skills preferred:
- Graduate degree
- Ability to communicate complex issues and information in an easy to understand manner.
- Experience with ocean science and research.
- Experience with GIS systems and website development.
Position 5: NOAA West Coast Offshore Wind Team Support Lead

**Office:** NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS, NOAA Fisheries) - West Coast Region  
**Position Title:** NOAA West Coast Offshore Wind Team Support Lead  
**Position Location:** Options for in-person, remote, or hybrid. NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region has offices in OR, WA, and CA ([see map here](#)).  
**Special Consideration:** Must be a US citizen

Program Overview: [NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service](#) (NMFS or NOAA Fisheries) is responsible for the stewardship of the nation’s living marine resources and their habitat. Our role in offshore wind energy development (Offshore Wind) is focused on minimizing the impacts to living marine resources, their habitats, and the ecosystem upon which they depend, and fishing opportunities throughout the planning, siting, and development stages and through our mandates. We do this by: providing scientific information; consultations with BOEM and other federal agencies to meet the requirements of various laws and regulations; providing recommendations during environmental assessments; conducting research and monitoring; and providing information on fisheries operations and the potential socioeconomic impacts of offshore wind projects on fishing communities. The NMFS [West Coast Regional Office](#), and [Northwest](#) and [Southwest](#) Fisheries Science Centers stood up an Offshore Wind team to work on these activities and help with internal coordination, priority setting, product development, and external engagement on our program areas of protected species, habitat, fish and fisheries, and ecosystem. The fellow would work with the Chair of this team and team members on a diverse suite of activities and be able to select a specific project for a deep-dive based on their skill set and interest.

**How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy:** NMFS’ Offshore Wind work is focused largely on the marine environment, however, there will also be considerations of the nearshore environment because cables will run from offshore areas to land. Additionally, there will be operations to support Offshore Wind along the coast and related port expansions.

**Summary of the fellow’s anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope:** At least half the time will be devoted to supporting our Offshore Wind team activities, including logistical and administrative support for that. The fellow would also select a specific focused project. There will be a mix of video calls with team members (full team and smaller groups of the team), project sponsor lead / Offshore Wind team Chair, and individual focused work. For work supporting the team, the fellow would work on crafting agendas, tracking follow up actions, planning and strategizing with the Chair, helping to pull together smaller team calls, potentially helping to coordinate input and comments on various documents, and working with mentors/leads of whatever individual focused project is selected.

Potential to select a project including but not limited to the following*:

- Develop an Offshore Wind EndNote Library for the West Coast NMFS offices;
- Review recent public comment letters on proposed West Coast Offshore Wind activities and identify comments relevant to NMFS mission areas and use software to develop a conceptual model for NOAA’s California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment;
- Assist lead biologists with ESA and/or EFH consultations;
- Coordinate internal and external partners to assist in document development and reviews associated with NEPA process;
- Assist socioeconomic and fisheries assessment work by compiling information on Infrastructure

June 2023
needed to support Offshore Wind development, such as transmission and port infrastructure;
Participate in survey mitigation assessment and development of related strategies

*Note that project options may evolve between the time of posting and the time of interviews, so during the time of interviews we can discuss updates and details about the options.

Approximate breakdown of field/office work: All work is expected to be in the office (physically or virtually). However, there may be opportunities for some extracurricular learning activities in the field with some of our staff, depending on location and other logistics. We have a network of interns and fellows that often plan learning activities as well.

The communities or stakeholders with which the fellow may engage:
- fishing industry, including the Pacific Fishery Management Council
- tribes
- state agencies
- other federal agencies
- NGOs
- Offshore Wind developers

Desired products from the fellow:
- Logistical items for team administration and support, such as agendas, notes, project trackers, document editing and compilation.
- Other products will depend on the project selected and the various activities the team will work on during the fellowship term.
- A presentation (virtual or in-person) to the WCOA membership on Fellow’s project(s)
- At least one blog post about the Fellow’s experience

Potential benefits of this position to the fellow: (Bulleted list)
- Learn about Offshore Wind issues on the West Coast and support siting and environmental review processes;
- Experience (directly or indirectly) with implementation of federal laws including the Endangered Species Act, Magnuson-Stevens Act, and National Environmental Policy Act
- Learn about NMFS West Coast scientific enterprise; experience with supporting both large and small team work.
- Additional experience gained will depend on the nature of the project selected.
- Networking with Tribal, Federal, and State governments addressing coastal and ocean issues on the West Coast
- Attendance of WCOA in-person and virtual meetings
- Opportunity to amplify your work regionally, along the West Coast

Skills required:
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Google docs and sheets
- Highly organized and detail-oriented
- Strong writing and communication skills
- Project management
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision

June 2023
● Experience or ability to work with people with diverse backgrounds.
● For other potential projects -- additional skills depending on the project of interest, and some examples include:
  o Objective, detailed, and creative research skills
  o Organizational skills with large sets of documents
  o Ability to synthesize and summarize large amounts of information

Skills preferred:
● Graduate degree in environmental studies, natural resource management, marine affairs, marine science, geography, public affairs, communications, or social sciences.
● For the Offshore Wind team support:
  o Conceptual understanding of the potential ecological and social effects of offshore wind energy development and/or marine resources issues along the U.S. West Coast
● For other potential projects -- additional skills depending on the project of interest, and some examples include:
  o Experience working with qualitative and quantitative data analysis software such as ATLASi, R, Python, or other similar tools.
  o Experience with Federal Register public comment documents
  o Experience with environmental analyses (eg under NEPA, ESA, MSA)
  o Experience with West Coast fisheries
Position 6: GIS Content Creator

**Office:** NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS, NOAA Fisheries) - Northwest Fisheries Science Center

**Position Title:** GIS Content Creator

**Position Location:** Options for remote, in-person or hybrid work schedule. For in-person or hybrid, the Northwest Fisheries Science Center has offices in Washington (Seattle, Port Orchard, Pasco) and Oregon (Newport, Hammond). If in-person or hybrid, working out of either Seattle or Newport is preferred.

**Special Consideration:** Must be a US citizen

**Program Overview:** NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS or NOAA Fisheries) is responsible for the stewardship of the nation's living marine resources and their habitat. Our role in offshore wind energy development (OSW) is focused on minimizing the impacts to living marine resources, their habitats and the ecosystem upon which they depend, and fishing opportunities throughout the planning, siting, and development stages. We do this by: providing scientific information; consultations with BOEM and other federal agencies to meet the requirements of various laws and regulations; providing recommendations during environmental assessments; conducting research and monitoring; and providing information on fisheries operations and the potential socioeconomic impacts of offshore wind projects on fishing communities. The NMFS West Coast Regional Office, and Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers stood up an OSW team to work on these activities and help with internal coordination, priority setting, product development, and external engagement on our program areas of protected species, habitat, fish and fisheries, and ecosystem.

The fellow would work with one of the members of the team from the Northwest Center and the activities would support priorities of the OSW team to enhance access and discovery of NOAA Fisheries West Coast data and science products.

**How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy:** NMFS’ OSW work is focused largely on the marine environment, however, there will also be considerations of the nearshore environment because cables will run from offshore areas to land. Additionally, there will be operations to support OSW along the coast and related port expansions.

**Summary of the fellow’s anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope:** In collaboration with staff from NMFS West Coast OSW Team, the fellow will develop a prioritized list of new or updated datasets to inform OSW planning and decision-making. The fellow will take the lead in engaging appropriate NMFS staff and would develop content (e.g., geospatial data layers, metadata, web maps, story maps, etc.) appropriate for discovery via the West Coast Ocean Data Portal (WCODP) and other portals. The goal of this project aligns nicely with the WCODP goal “to increase discovery and connectivity of ocean and coastal data and people to better inform regional resource management, policy development, and ocean planning.”

**Approximate breakdown of field/office work:** All work is expected to be in the office (physically or virtually). However, there may be opportunities for some extracurricular learning activities in the field with some of our staff, depending on location and other logistics. We have a network of interns and fellows that often plan learning activities as well.
List the communities or stakeholders with which the fellow may engage:
- BOEM and other federal agencies
- state agencies
- NGOs
- OSW developers
- fishing industry, including the Pacific Fishery Management Council
- tribes

Desired products from the fellow:
- GIS map/feature/tile services published to the NOAA Fisheries GIS Portal or NOAA’s GeoPlatform and accessible via the West Coast Ocean Data Portal and other relevant portals.
- Metadata records published to NOAA Fisheries InPort metadata repository.
- ArcGIS Web Map and/or Story Map highlighting NMFS West Coast data and research products that are helping to inform OSW siting and monitoring decisions.
- A presentation (virtual or in-person) to the WCOA membership on Fellow’s project(s)
- At least one blog post about the Fellow’s experience

Potential benefits of this position to the fellow:
- Learn about offshore wind issues on the West Coast and publish content that informs the siting and environmental review processes
- Learn about NMFS West Coast scientific enterprise and how it relates to marine spatial planning decisions
- Networking with Tribal, Federal, and State governments addressing coastal and ocean issues on the West Coast
- Attendance of WCOA in-person and virtual meetings
- Opportunity to amplify your work regionally, along the West Coast

Skills Required:
- Undergraduate degree with a focus in geography, computer science, informatics, or related field
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment where priorities change quickly
- Highly organized and detail-oriented
- Strong writing and communication skills
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Experience using GIS software, specifically ESRI ArcGIS software suite

Skills preferred: (Bulleted list)
- Familiarity with publishing GIS services (e.g., map, feature, tile)
- Familiarity with creating and editing FGDC compliant metadata
- Familiarity with ArcGIS Online and how to discover map services
- Familiarity with ArcGIS Web maps and ArcGIS StoryMaps and how to create them
Position 7: NOAA West Coast Aquaculture Fellow

Office: NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS, NOAA Fisheries) - Northwest Fisheries Science Center

Position Title: NOAA West Coast Aquaculture Fellow

Position Location: Options for in-person, remote or hybrid. Stationed in Seattle or Lacey, WA (or potentially co-located with Willapa Bay Oyster Growers Association in Long Beach, WA).

Special Consideration: Must be a US citizen

Program Overview: NOAA Fisheries has a multi-faceted role in aquaculture, from supporting science and research to federal policy-making and regulation. Specifically, NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region works closely with a variety of partners to expand opportunities to grow marine products such as fish, shellfish, and algae, and restore native populations of Olympia oysters, white abalone, and bull kelp. Partners include regional tribes; the states of Washington, Oregon, and California; the aquaculture industry; academia; and non-governmental organizations.

How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy: The position would work on a variety of aquaculture issues to help implement NOAA’s various policies related to supporting sustainable aquaculture. Topics include invasive species control and mitigation, assisting the Oregon Aquaculture Association and state partners prepare to develop a state-wide plan, broadening NOAA’s support of tribal aquaculture and supporting Washington coastal ecosystem collaboration.

Summary of the fellow’s anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope: The Fellow will work with the NOAA Fisheries Or/WA Aquaculture Coordinator to prioritize time working with partners on the scope of activities listed above. This would include policy analysis, literature reviews, attending meetings and traveling and talking with constituents.

Approximate breakdown of field/office work: Approximately 85% office, 15% field

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

- Oregon Aquaculture Association
- Northwest Aquaculture Association
- Oregon and Washington Sea Grant
- Willapa Bay/Grays Harbor Oyster Growers Association
- Pacific Shellfish Growers Association
- The Nature Conservancy
- Coastal tribes of Washington and Oregon
- PEW Charitable Trusts
- Ecotrust

Desired products from the fellow:

- Policy analysis synthesis at the end of the Fellowship regarding the above topics
- A presentation (virtual or in-person) to the WCOA membership on Fellow’s project(s)
- At least one blog post about the Fellow’s experience
Potential benefits of this position to the fellow:

- A greater understanding of NOAA, and the NOAA Fisheries West Coast Regional office and associated aquaculture program.
- A greater understanding of NOAA’s trust responsibilities with tribes, how aquaculture relates to the Endangered Species Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, Essential Fish Habitat, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, marine spatial planning and additional Federal authorities.
- Developing professional relationships with NOAA Staff and partner staff that overlap with aquaculture.
- Opportunities for formal and informal training and mentoring.
- Networking with Tribal, Federal, and State governments addressing coastal and ocean issues on the West Coast
- Attendance of WCOA in-person and virtual meetings
- Opportunity to amplify your work regionally, along the West Coast

Skills Required:

- Undergraduate degree
- An interest in the field of conservation/natural resource management and aquaculture fields.
- Demonstrated capacity to work well and collaborate with others.
- Effective written and verbal communication skills.
- An eagerness to learn.
- Ability and willingness to interact professionally and constructively with people holding different viewpoints.
- Ability and willingness to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a team.
- Ability and willingness to learn about complex scientific and technical issues.
- Ability and willingness to learn about NOAA Fisheries’ policies and authorities.
- Ability and willingness to identify issues, communicate effectively, solve problems, and develop practical recommendations.
- Excel, Google systems.

Skills preferred: (Bulleted list)

- Geographic Information Systems proficiency.
- Knowledge of social science methodology and proficiency.
Position 8: Ocean Protection and Research Fellow

**Office:** EPA Region 9 Wetlands and Oceans Section  
**Position Title:** Ocean Protection and Research Fellow  
**Position Location:** This is a hybrid position with in-office work 2 to 3 days per week based on arrangement with the host office; Office location may be San Francisco, CA or Los Angeles, CA  
**Special Consideration:** Must be a US citizen

**Program Overview:** EPA Region 9’s Wetlands and Oceans Section administers the Clean Water Act and Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act. The Clean Water Act regulates discharges of pollutants into waters of the U.S. and EPA writes water quality certifications and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits under this statute. The Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act is the basis of federal regulations for much of ocean dumping and sediment disposal. EPA Region 9 designates offshore disposal sites and has authority over what can be dumped at those sites and monitors the site for environmental impacts and compliance.

**How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy:** This position will work on ocean and coastal issues including, but not limited to: net pen aquaculture, coastal water quality requirements of states and tribes, research of novel marine projects, such as carbon dioxide removal, offshore wind in California, and data analysis from ocean sediment disposal.

**Summary of the fellow’s anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope:** The Fellow will work on a suite of projects that build on the 50 years of Clean Water Act and Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act analysis and regulatory work administered by the EPA. As new topics and projects are developed, EPA staff need to evaluate the impacts of those projects to protect human health and the environment. The fellowship tasks are support and precursors to permit development and disposal site designations.

- **Aquaculture (coastal ocean fish net pen facility)** - 30-40% FTE - the fellow would work on 2 major priorities - 1) Aquaculture modeling reports and analysis, 2) Technical support of Environmental Impact Study and reports that are precursors to NPDES permit and technical support for permit development. Other tasks would include research, monitoring plan recommendations, and policy discussions.

- **Data Review and Analysis** – 40 – 50% FTE. EPA Region 9 designates offshore disposal sites under Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act and has authority over what can be dumped at those sites and monitors the site for environmental impacts and compliance. Data review and analysis would be on sediment and other materials that are proposed for ocean disposal, and on monitoring data from EPA ocean surveys. Additional tasks might be research and analysis in preparation for new site designation, updates to sites, or novel ocean disposal activities like carbon dioxide removal.

- **Offshore Wind** – 5-10% FTE. The fellow would do research and data analysis for sediment management and ocean dumping connected with potential offshore wind projects in Humboldt and Morro Bay. Additional locations off California and the Pacific Islands as needed. Work may include technical support for permit development, monitoring plan recommendations, and policy discussions.

- **Tribal Support** – 5-10% FTE. Work activities for tribal support would include communication, discussion and support of ocean and water quality regulatory programs with tribal nations in California. Specific
activities may include research or analysis in supporting tribal governments to develop water quality certification programs under Clean Water Act Section 401, information sharing on sediment review and management under the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, research and information gathering on tribal training and information needs. Fellows should have strong oral and written communication skills for tribal support work.

Approximate breakdown of field/office work: This position is in-office work. Occasional travel to local and regional meetings 2-4 times per month.

List the communities or stakeholders with which the fellow may engage:
- Tribal Nations in California
- Coastal communities in areas with pending aquaculture or offshore wind power projects
- Federal, State, and local government and regulatory agencies

Desired products from the fellow:
- Modeling reports and analysis
- Technical support and reports that are precursors to studies and permits
- Data review and analysis reports
- Research summaries and bibliographies on marine topics including offshore wind and carbon removal
- Communications strategies, summaries and analysis of training and information needs
- A presentation (virtual or in-person) to the WCOA membership on Fellow’s project(s)
- One blog post (due in the last month of the Fellowship) about the Fellow’s experience

Potential benefits of this position to the fellow:
- The opportunity to work with experienced ocean and sediment program scientists and regulators
- Gain applied experience on research and data analysis for permitting aquaculture, coastal water quality certifications, and ocean projects.
- Networking with Tribal, Federal, and State governments addressing coastal and ocean issues on the West Coast
- Attendance of WCOA in-person and virtual meetings
- Opportunity to amplify your work regionally, along the West Coast

Skills Required:
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Ability to communicate clearly and present technical/scientific information to a variety of different audiences including individuals and groups of state, local, tribal officials, businesses, non-governmental organizations, and the public
- Experience with writing reports, emails, meeting notes, and other similar deliverables
- Experience with synthesizing information and conveying research results
- Excellent attention to detail
- Ability to self-direct work and be comfortable reaching out to team members for assistance and building a collaboration around work tasks
- Knowledge of coastal or ocean science concepts, principles and processes
- Graduate degree or undergrad degree + experience in oceanography, marine science, chemistry, physical science, or life science.
Completion of a successful background investigation by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM)/Personnel Security System is required for an applicant to be onboarded at EPA.

**Skills preferred**: (Bulleted list)
- experience in chemical oceanography
- experience in biological oceanography
- knowledge of science concepts, principles and practices related to sediment transport and contaminated sediments
- knowledge of statutes and implementing regulations and guidance: Clean Water Act, Marine, Research and Sanctuaries Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, National Environmental Policy Act
- knowledge of tribal government or state government statutes and regulations
- experience in researching or writing Biological Assessments or Biological Opinions
Position 9: West Coast Ocean Health Dashboard Developer

**Office:** Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP)

**Position Title:** West Coast Ocean Health Dashboard Developer

**Position Location:** Costa Mesa, CA

**Program Overview:** The Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) is a public R&D agency that develops and applies next-generation science to improve management of aquatic systems in Southern California and beyond. Since its founding in 1969, SCCWRP has been developing strategies, tools and technologies that the region’s water-quality management community relies on to more effectively protect and enhance the ecological health of Southern California’s coastal ocean and watersheds. For more information: https://www.sccwrp.org/about/.

**How this position specifically relates to marine and coastal policy:** This fellowship position will work as an integral part of the larger development of the West Coast Ocean Health Dashboard, an innovative project aimed at providing a scientific and data-driven foundation for prioritizing ocean management issues for attention from state, federal and tribal managers on the West Coast. The indicators that make up the dashboard will not only strengthen ocean management in the region, they will also help determine where and how managers should improve data and monitoring systems that inform ocean management in the future.

**Summary of the fellow’s anticipated day-to-day activities and how these tasks fit within a larger project scope:** The fellow will work with leadership and members of the WCODP and WCOA, while in close coordination with expert staff at SCCWRP, to develop a new standalone ocean health indicator to be added to the West Coast Ocean Health Dashboard. Based on the fellow’s background, expertise, and personal interest, the fellow will assist in development of several indicators in the suite of dashboard focus areas (see graphic below).

**Indicators**

**Catagory**
- Stressors
- Ecosystem Health
- Human Use

**Health Indicator**
- Ocean Change
- Pollution
- Habitat
- Biota
- Coastal Economy
- Recreation

**Components**
- Ocean acidification
- Hypoxia
- Warming
- Beach water quality
- Harmful algal blooms
- Marine debris
- Toxics
- Kelp
- Seagrass
- Wetlands
- Rocky shores
- Benthic fauna
- Water column
- Large marine mammals
- Ocean-related employment
- Fisheries
- Coastal access
- Tourism

**Approximate breakdown of field/office work:** The fellow will be expected to work in person at SCCWRP’s offices in Costa Mesa, CA, though some accommodation for remote work is possible after an initial orientation and demonstration of excellent independent performance. The fellow will also be
expected to travel to WCOA in-person meetings to engage with WCOA members, staff and leadership as well as other fellows.

**List the communities or stakeholders with which the fellow may engage:** The fellow will be asked to make presentations to a number of user community audiences, including SCCWRP’s member agencies, particularly the California Ocean Protection Council. The fellow will also be asked to interact with technical experts in the subject areas of the indicators they are working on, which will come from an array of government and academic organizations.

**Desired products from the fellow:**
- Development of one or more ocean health indicators as part of the West Coast Ocean Health Dashboard project supported by WCODP & WCOA.
- Optional: scientific journal manuscript focused on the new dashboard indicator.
- Optional: coordination with California Ocean Protection Council staff and leadership on potential integration into state-focused ocean health report card activities.
- A presentation (virtual or in-person) to the WCOA membership on Fellow’s project(s).
- At least one blog post about the Fellow’s experience.

**Potential benefits of this position to the fellow:**
- Opportunity to interact with national leaders in development of ecosystem health indicators.
- Networking with Tribal, Federal, and State governments addressing coastal and ocean issues on the West Coast
- Attendance of WCOA in-person and virtual meetings
- Opportunity to amplify your work regionally, along the West Coast
- Experience in data development and supporting technical data products in coordination with regional data and science experts.

**Skills Required:**
- Ph.D. or MS with two years experience
- Familiarity with Ecosystem Health Indicators and their use in a management context
- Quantitative data analysis skills, including experience with GIS
- Interpersonal skills needed to facilitate groups of collaborative experts

**Skills preferred:** (Bulleted list)
- Ability to communicate with both scientists and environmental managers
- Experience in writing for a management audience