

Position: Postdoctoral Research Associate – Evaluating drivers of river metabolism and links to higher trophic levels across gradients of river alteration in the Colorado River basin.

Description: We seek a postdoctoral research associate to examine ecosystem metabolism across gradients of river alteration and link ecosystem metabolism to invertebrate and fish population and assemblage dynamics. This project aims to provide insight into ecosystem processes at a broad spatial extent, where basic knowledge of these processes is limited despite various watershed alterations. The postdoc will have the opportunity to conduct original research in rivers of the upper Colorado River basin. This position will require field work to deploy and maintain a network of oxygen and temperature sondes, and collect data on benthic algae and macroinvertebrates. Expertise in modeling river metabolism and analyzing data from oxygen and temperature sondes is preferred but not required. The associate will work directly with Drs. Casey Pennock (Utah State University) and Phaedra Budy (U.S. Geological Survey, Utah State University), and will work closely with Dr. Charles Yackulic and other researchers with the U.S. Geological Survey, Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center (GCMRC) with expertise in modeling. The associate will also be expected to help mentor graduate and undergraduate students in the Fish Ecology Lab (<https://www.usu.edu/fel/>) and play an active role in the Department of Watershed Sciences.

Qualifications: Completed PhD in aquatic ecology or closely related field before start date and interest in freshwater ecosystem conservation. Candidates should have knowledge and interests in R programming and strong quantitative skills.

Location: The successful applicant will be based out of the Department of Watershed Sciences at Utah State University in Logan, UT but will be expected to occasionally visit Flagstaff, AZ to work with GCMRC colleagues. Logan is a relatively small college town located at the base of the Bear River Range and the Cache National Forest, offering a diversity of outdoor recreation opportunities, as well as being within a short drive of Salt Lake City and its many amenities. For additional information describing the department, faculty, and programs see <http://www.cnr.usu.edu/wats/>.

Salary and benefits: One year of funding is guaranteed with potential for extension depending on funding and performance. Salary is \$60,000 per year + retirement, health benefits (47%), and support for professional travel.

Start date: We encourage applicants to submit materials as soon as possible and by May 23, 2022, at the latest. Start date is negotiable but targeted for summer of 2022.

Apply to Dr. Casey Pennock (casey.pennock@usu.edu) in a single, merged PDF: (1) brief cover letter describing experiential background, career goals, and project interest, (2) CV, and (3) email addresses and phone numbers for three professional references.