



Career Opportunity This is not a Federal Position

We are currently accepting applications to fill the following vacancy:

Title of Position: Biologist (Postdoctoral Research Fellow)

Announcement Number: SITRUST-23-NMNH0505

Number of Vacancies: 4

OPEN DATE:	May 24, 2023
CLOSING DATE:	June 23, 2023
SALARY RANGE:	IS-0401-09 (\$64,957-\$67,122)
POSITION TYPE:	Trust Fund
APPOINTMENT TYPE:	Temporary, NTE 1 Year
	Note: May be further extended up to 3 years based on availability of funds
SCHEDULE:	Full Time
DUTY LOCATION:	Washington, DC

Position sensitivity and risk:
[Non-sensitive \(NS\)/Low Risk](#)

Open to all qualified applicants.

The Smithsonian Institution provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation should contact the point-of-contact listed in the “How To Apply” section below. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis. To learn more, please review the Smithsonian’s [Accommodation Procedures](#).

The Smithsonian Institution is an **Equal Opportunity Employer**. We believe that a workforce comprising a variety of educational, cultural, and experiential backgrounds support and enhance our daily work life and contribute to the richness of our exhibitions and programs. See Smithsonian EEO program information: www.si.edu/oeema.

KEY REQUIREMENTS

- Pass Pre-employment Background Check and Subsequent Background Investigation for position designated as low risk
- Complete a 1-year probationary period
- Maintain a Bank Account for Direct Deposit/Electronic Transfer

Conditions of Employment

COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS:

For the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccination requirements and its impact on your application, click on Smithsonian Institution’s [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

OVERVIEW

The Department of Invertebrate Zoology, based at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), in Washington DC invites applicants for the position of Postdoctoral Researcher. The selected candidates will conduct research, occasional fieldwork, and collaborate with experts to characterize biodiversity of megafauna found in the Gulf of Mexico. These positions will support ongoing restoration and conservation efforts of mesophotic and deep benthic habitats in response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill under a new partnership between NMNH and NOAA's Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Community Program. The position requires experience in marine invertebrate taxonomy, molecular laboratory methods, and bioinformatics to aid in the identification and characterization of biodiversity and prioritization of research areas critical to meeting program goals. Oral and written communication skills are essential. The successful candidates will be expected to present research results at professional meetings.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The selected candidates will be responsible for leading biodiversity studies on marine invertebrates in at least one of the following groups of taxa: corals, gastropods, crustaceans, echinoderms, or sponges. The selected candidates will use an integrative approach that includes both morphological and genomic methodologies to examine phylogenetic relationships, phylogeography, connectivity, and/or species delimitation. The candidates must also ensure that generated data are analyzed, documented and shared with partners and deposited in public repositories. They will write publishable, peer-reviewed scientific papers, support the development of research activities in the Gulf of Mexico and contribute to reports produced in collaboration with NMNH scientists. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in museum activities, such as education and outreach activities, as well as participate in professional associations and other organizations within the scientific community.

Full-time, 1-year temporary appointment with full Smithsonian benefits to be filled at the IS-09 level, equivalent to Federal GS-09. Extension of position for up to 3 years is possible. The museum's authorized salary range for this position at this time is \$64,957-\$67,122 per annum.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS EDUCATION: Candidates may qualify for this position by demonstrating the experience described below and by completion of a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences or equivalent field.

Knowledge and experience required for this position include but are not limited to:

- Professional knowledge of biological sciences and/or marine sciences is required.
- Demonstrated experience conducting molecular lab work associated with marine invertebrates is required.
- Demonstrated experience in marine invertebrate taxonomy is required.
- Demonstrated experience in generation and analysis of morphological data of marine invertebrates is required.
- Experience in genetic or genomic techniques, including phylogenetics, species delimitation, phylogeography, and/or population genomics is required.
- Ability to work and collaborate with a diverse team of scientists and program managers is required.
- Ability to communicate marine related topics to a variety of audiences including general, educational and scientific groups is important.
- Experience in high-performance computing resources, computers, software and bioinformatics is essential.
- Knowledge of public repositories for genetic and genomic data is important
- Knowledge of statistical packages such as R, python, and/or MatLab is preferred.
- Experience in scanning electron microscopy is preferred.
- Demonstrated experience in oral and written communication is required.
- Evidence of prior publications in peer-reviewed journals is required.
- Must be able to travel and work independently as well as within a team environment.

Applicants, who wish to qualify based on education completed outside the United States, must be deemed equivalent to higher education programs of U.S. Institutions by an organization that specializes in the interpretation of foreign educational credentials. This documentation is the responsibility of the applicant and should be included as part of your application package.

Any false statement in your application may result in your application being rejected and may also result in termination after employment begins.

The Smithsonian Institution values and seeks a diverse workforce. Join us in "Inspiring Generations through Knowledge and Discovery."

How To Apply:

Please forward a resume, and cover letter to:	Point of Contact Name: NMNH HR Office Email Address: NMNHStaffing@si.edu <u>Note:</u> Please include the position title: <u>Biologist</u> <u>(Postdoctoral Research Fellow)</u> , in the subject line.
Applications received on or before Friday, June 23, 2023, at 5:00pm (EST) will be considered.	
Interested candidates should submit the following: (1) a cover letter expressing their interest and applicability for the position; (2) their curriculum vitae (CV) (annotated as explained below); (3) names and contact information for three referees; (4) a research statement; (5) a statement of how the candidate will enhance the diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusivity of the Museum; and (6) any other qualifications the candidate sees as relevant to the position.	
Please include the position title in the subject line of your e-mail. CVs should include a description of your paid and non-paid work experience that is related to this job; starting and ending dates of job (<i>Month and year</i>); and average number of hours worked per week. Reference letters will be requested from select candidates at a later date. Qualified candidates who are referred to the hiring official will be asked to submit educational transcripts and proof of U.S. accreditation for foreign study.	
What To Expect Next: Once the vacancy announcement closes, a review of your resume will be compared against the qualification and experience requirements related to this job. After review of applicant resumes is complete, qualified candidates will be referred to the hiring manager.	

Relocation expenses are not paid.

What are Trust Fund Positions?

Trust Fund positions are unique to the Smithsonian. They are paid for from a variety of sources, including the Smithsonian endowment, revenue from our business activities, donations, grants and contracts. Trust employees are not part of the civil service, nor does trust fund employment lead to Federal status. The salary ranges for trust positions are generally the same as for federal positions and in many cases trust and federal employees work side by side. Trust employees have their own benefit program and may include Health, Dental & Vision Insurance, Life Insurance, Transit/Commuter Benefits, Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance, Annual and Sick Leave, Family Friendly Leave, 403b Retirement Plan, Discounts for Smithsonian Memberships, Museum Stores and Restaurants, Credit Union, Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center (Child Care), Flexible Spending Account (Health & Dependent Care).