

Postdoctoral Scholar at Oregon State University: Seabird Ecology and Modelling

Position Summary

The College of Forestry at Oregon State University is seeking a Postdoctoral Scholar to join the [Oregon Marbled Murrelet Project](#) as part of a collaborative effort between the laboratories of [Dr. Matt Betts](#) in the Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society and [Dr. Jim Rivers](#) in the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management. This position will co-lead research projects investigating space use, population analysis, and habitat selection of the threatened Marbled Murrelet. The annual stipend is between \$55,000 - \$61,500, depending on experience. The anticipated start date for this position is April 1, 2023, with some flexibility; support is available for a minimum of 16 months, with the potential for extension depending on funding availability.

Position Duties

This position involves extensive work with both small and large datasets using varied modeling approaches with the ultimate goal of producing several high quality peer-reviewed publications related to ecology and conservation of the Marbled Murrelet. Publications will focus on several research objectives that include but are not limited to:

1. Quantifying the extent to which changes in terrestrial habitat adjacent to the ocean influences murrelet at-sea population densities.
2. Evaluating space use and movement of radio-tagged birds via incorporating both terrestrial and oceanographic data.
3. Assessing pre-nesting diet across variable environmental conditions.
4. Synthesizing range-wide data to evaluate nest success and primary causes of mortality.
5. Leveraging of existing dataset to enhance broader project objectives.

Minimum/ Required Qualifications

- Ph.D. awarded within the last five years in wildlife ecology or a closely related field
- Computing skills that include using database programs, statistical software (e.g., R), and spatial software (e.g., ArcGIS, Spatial Analyst, Google Earth Engine, Python)
- Demonstrated proficiency for independent writing of scientific publications for peer-reviewed journals
- Strong communication skills that facilitate working effectively in large research teams
- Professional competence in planning, designing, executing, and coordinating research

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience with step-selection function models
- Previous research experience investigating spatial ecology of birds
- Knowledge and experience with forest management practices of the Pacific Northwest

Application Instructions

Applicants should create a single PDF file that contains:

- (1) a cover letter addressing qualifications as related to the specific duties and qualifications of the position;
- (2) a full-length curriculum vitae (CV);
- (3) the names and contact information (i.e., email, telephone) of three references who may be contacted; and

(4) two examples of peer-reviewed publications.

This document should be emailed to both Drs. Betts (matt.betts@oregonstate.edu) and Rivers (jim.rivers@oregonstate.edu) with “Marbled Murrelet Postdoc” in the subject line. We will begin reviewing applications by March 30th, but applications will be accepted until a suitable candidate is selected, and only applicants selected for consideration on a shortlist will be contacted.

Oregon State University commits to inclusive excellence by advancing equity and diversity in all that we do. We are an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer, and particularly encourage applications from members of historically underrepresented racial/ethnic groups, women, individuals with disabilities, veterans, LGBTQ community members, and others who demonstrate the ability to help us achieve our vision of a diverse and inclusive community.