



Postdoctoral Position

Aquatic Ecology of Floating Photovoltaic Solar Energy

Owing to the immediacy of the position, applications are ***open for submission now and they will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Applications received before 30 October 2023 are guaranteed to be given full consideration. ***

Project Description: Prof. Rebecca R. Hernandez (www.GESLab.org), Prof. Alona Armstrong (www.lancaster.ac.uk/energy-lancaster/) and collaborators at U. of Lancaster, Prof. Steven Sadro (<https://sadrolab.squarespace.com>), and the multi-sector **UC Wild Solar Team** of the **Wild Energy Center** (www.WildEnergy.org) at the University of California Davis invite applications for a **postdoctoral scholar position** to lead **hydrological and aquatic ecology** research activities at floating photovoltaic solar energy facilities (FPVs) in the state of California. In addition to a supportive academic mentoring team, each UC Wild Solar Postdoctoral Scholar will be **matched with at least one non-university end-user 'Champion Mentor'** (e.g., Ciel & Terre, global leader in FPVs; The Nature Conservancy).

Photovoltaic solar energy development is expanding on land and water throughout the state of California. The rapid buildout of FPVs introduces the potential for both adverse consequences as well as remarkable beneficial opportunities for California's constructed and natural water bodies, including their hydrology and the aquatic species that interact with and occupy them.

This position will be one of several postdocs on the UC Wild Solar Team, with the others addressing topics including techno-economic aspects of biodiversity-friendly mitigation strategies and ecosystem restoration opportunities of solar farms in California. Applicants may indicate their interest in any one of these open positions.

Job Duties: This position will involve **five major activities** building on lessons learned from previous related projects on FPVs while incorporating novel developments based on the applicant's creativity and scholarship. First, liaison with FPV developers and stakeholders to evaluate, secure, and maintain FPV research sites for the UC Wild Solar Project in California. Second, assist in the launch of a state-wide, coordinated research network ('UC Wild Solar'). Third, plan multi-site, coordinated data collection and monitoring campaigns (including the use of **above- and below water environmental sensors, sondes, and camera traps**), and execute them. Fourth, use data collected to answer questions and test hypotheses related to understanding, optimizing, and predicting relationships among hydrological phenomena, target species, and FPV infrastructure. Five, assist in the development of materials, activities, and events that provide FPV developers and stakeholders with evidence-based opportunities for FPV development that can support conservation actions (e.g., [California's 30 x 30 Strategy](#)) and other sustainability goals (e.g., water security).



Given the interdisciplinary nature of the research, other professional skills and experiences that could be beneficial for hiring might include a background in or demonstrated experience with hydrological sondes, environmental sensors, camera trapping, big data management, animal ecology, a desire and proficiency to publish in scientific journals, ability to communicate (oral and in print) research findings to multiple academic and nonacademic audiences, and/or transdisciplinary outreach to multi-sector stakeholders.

Job Qualifications & Expectations: **Applicants must possess a PhD from an accredited university by 31 October 2023** in one of the following fields: Hydrology, Aquatic Ecology, Ecology, Microbiology, Biogeochemistry, Environmental Science, Geography, Earth System Science, or a related field. The scholar will be expected to adhere to project goals and tasks, while taking initiative with duties. The scholar will be expected to collaborate compassionately, inclusively, and effectively among highly diverse peers, students, and as part of the larger multi-sector team from academia, government, and nonprofits, spanning diverse disciplines.

Applicants must have:

- Aquatic hydrology research experience;
- Experience in the selection, deployment, and/or management of environmental sensors, sondes, and/or camera traps OR the strong desire to build these skills;
- Experience in spatial and/or temporal data analysis and modeling;
- Proficiency in coding in either R, Python, or a related application;
- Proficiency in written and spoken English; and,
- Commitment to staying in the role for the entire two-year duration of the UC Wild Solar Project.

Owing to the nature of field research activities, remotely located employment is not an option. Demonstrated experience and skill with organization, time management, data management, oral and written communication, and scientific publication are preferred. The successful candidate will receive training as needed to supplement their initial capabilities.

Salary & Benefits: The initial appointment duration for this 100%-time position is two years. All University of California postdoctoral scholars receive benefits and are paid according to a publicly available, union-negotiated salary scale with mandatory annual increases, which can be accessed here: (<https://ucdavis.app.box.com/s/d2cv7dqvg2moyw5ymr1gokliyn3ddfzqz>). The successful applicant's salary will be determined based on their individual status with respect to "step" criteria at the time their employment begins.

Application & Contract Information: Owing to the immediacy of the position, applications are ***open for submission now and they will be reviewed on a rolling basis***. Applications received before 30 October



2023 are guaranteed to be given full consideration. In addition to submitting the online application, candidates should send a copy of the following materials to <rrhernandez@ucdavis.edu>:

- (1) A well-crafted, single-page cover letter summarizing their research and career interests tying to their reason for applying for this job;
- (2) A curriculum vitae with a final sub-section listing contact information for three academic or professional references; and,
- (3) All applications (e-mailed as a single PDF file) should be addressed and emailed to Professor Rebecca R. Hernandez <rrhernandez@ucdavis.edu>.

Apply link: <https://recruit.ucdavis.edu/JPF06078>

University Information: The position is held within the (www.WildEnergy.org) Wild Energy Center at the University of California, Davis. UC Davis is a smoke and tobacco-free campus (<http://breathefree.ucdavis.edu/>). 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. For the complete University of California nondiscrimination and affirmative action policy see:

<http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/4000376/NondiscrimAffirmAct>

Under Federal law, the University of California may employ only individuals who are legally able to work in the United States as established by providing documents as specified in the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. Certain UC Davis positions funded by federal contracts or sub-contracts require the selected candidate to pass an E-Verify check. More information is available at: <http://www.uscis.gov/e-verify>.

The University of California, Davis (UC Davis) is committed to inclusive excellence by advancing equity, diversity and inclusion in all that we do. UC Davis celebrates the multi-cultural diversity of its community by creating a welcoming and inclusive environment demonstrated through a variety of resources and programs available to academics, staff, and students. Diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging are core values of UC Davis that are embedded within our Principles of Community and are tied with how to best serve our student population. Our excellence in research, teaching, and service can best be fully realized by members of our academic community who share our commitment to these values, which are included in our Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Vision, our strategic plan: "To Boldly Go," our Principles of Community, the Office of Academic Affairs' Mission Statement, and the UC Board of Regents Policy 4400: Policy on University of California Diversity Statement. UC Davis is making important progress towards our goal of achieving federal designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution and an Asian American, Native American, and Pacific Islander-Serving Institution. The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion offers a plethora of resources on their website, and the Office of Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (HEDI) has outlined similar goals in their Anti-Racism and DEI Action Plan." There is a plethora of links available where you can learn more about our Administration, Diversity and Inclusion, Rankings,



Locations, Native American Land Acknowledgement, Sustainability, Visiting UC Davis, UC Davis Health, and Campus Safety.

The university is consistently ranked among the top institutions in the world for campus sustainability practices by the UI Green Metric World University Rankings. UC Davis is focused on achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions and repeatedly shown its commitment to preserving a healthy and sustainable environment for generations to come.

As a condition of employment, you will be required to comply with the University of California Policy on Vaccination Programs - With Updated Interim Amendments. All Covered Individuals under the policy must provide proof of receiving the COVID-19 Vaccine Primary Series or, if applicable, submit a request for Exception (based on Medical Exemption, Disability, Religious Objection, and/or Deferral based on pregnancy or recent COVID-19 diagnosis and/or treatment) no later than the applicable deadline. All Covered Individuals must also provide proof of receiving the most recent CDC-recommended COVID-19 booster or properly decline such booster no later than the applicable deadline. New University of California employees should refer to Exhibit 2, Section II.C. of the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program Attachment for applicable deadlines. All Covered Individuals must also provide proof of being up-to-date on seasonal influenza vaccination or properly decline such vaccination no later than the applicable deadline. Please refer to the Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Program Attachment. (Capitalized terms in this paragraph are defined in the policy.) Federal, state, or local public health directives may impose additional requirements.