

University of California, Irvine
Postdoctoral Scholar - UCI's Environmental Collaboratory, Catalina Island Conservancy, and
UCI Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

UCI's Environmental Collaboratory (the Center for Environmental Biology, UCI NATURE, and Masters in Conservation and Restoration Science), the Catalina Island Conservancy, and the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology invite applications for a full-time Postdoctoral Scholar to work on restoration planning and prioritization for Catalina Island. We seek highly motivated applicants to build a team of experts and develop a prioritized plan for the ecological restoration of degraded habitat. Work will include a literature review of Catalina Island habitats, GIS compilation of existing maps and desired vegetation conditions, and field visits to the island to ground-truth mapped observations.

The successful applicant will be passionate about restoration and conservation and will intend to pursue a career in these fields as opposed to academia. Applicant should be a leader who is excited to bring together global experts to identify optimal large-scale restoration strategies. Once hired, the applicant will be supported by the entire team of UCI Environmental Collaboratory and Catalina Island Conservancy staff.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Use existing spatial data, ground truth to determine invasive shrubs vs. higher valued island chaparral species to create a "degraded state" map of different levels or grades of restoration potential. Identify important vegetation-abiotic spatial correlates.
- Conduct research on restoration strategies with a focus on scaling up and leveraging natural restoration and successional processes.
- Create a "Desired States" map with restoration polygons- review the existing desired states map, but update it based on ground truthing, research, and a restoration context.
- Develop a Restoration Prioritization Map - take restoration polygons and assign cost estimates based on community to be restored, access, strategy, and likelihood of success.

QUALIFICATIONS: Doctoral degree in ecology or a related field; Experience conducting ecological restoration; Experience with GIS; Capacity to work full days outdoors under field conditions on a routine basis; Willingness to commute from Irvine to Catalina Island by ferry; Willingness to spend several days at a time on the island with the potential for several trips each year; Strong organizational, teamwork, and communication skills; Commitment to promoting field safety and best practices; Valid driver's license. Desirable qualifications also include: Familiarity with California plant species and communities; Knowledge of large-scale ecological restoration techniques; Experience with data management and ability to analyze data in R.

Initial appointment will be for 12 months and will be renewable for up to one year, subject to performance and availability of funding. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Review of applications will begin immediately. Applications will be considered until the position is filled. Inquiries about the position should be directed via email to Sarah Kimball (skimball@uci.edu). Please include "Catalina Island Position" in the subject heading of the email.

Application Procedure: Qualified candidates should submit their curriculum vitae, a cover letter, and the names and contact information of three references to the following on-line recruitment URL:

<https://recruit.ap.uci.edu/JPF07658>.

The University of California, Irvine is an Equal Opportunity /Affirmative Action Employer advancing inclusive excellence. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status, or other protected categories covered by the UC nondiscrimination policy.