



Strengthening Local and Regional Seafood Systems

Research opportunities for prospective graduate students and a post-doctoral fellow

Posted: Summer 2022

Join our team!

We are recruiting three to five graduate students (master's or PhD level) and one post-doctoral fellow to join our research team. Researchers will be treated as a cohort to encourage comradery and collaboration. Each researcher will participate in an independent project associated with the overarching theme of the initiative: strengthening local and regional seafood systems. To encourage interdisciplinarity and network building, we will promote a team-based mentorship and advising model in which graduate students are supported by a group of advisors from diverse backgrounds, disciplines, and institutions. Those with diverse backgrounds and skillsets are encouraged to apply.

Project summary

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted food systems around the globe, including those in the seafood sector, affecting the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people. In the United States, many seafood harvesters pivoted to and expanded local and regional distribution efforts in order to cope with the crisis, diversify their operations, and build resilience in the face of future disruptions. Aligning with strategic local, regional, and national priorities, the purpose of this initiative is to build a national consortium of fishing communities, researchers, and technical assistance that will collaborate to strengthen local and regional seafood systems in support of healthy fisheries and the communities that depend on them. This work will: (1) catalyze transdisciplinary research related to small-scale fisheries and local and regional seafood systems; (2) create dynamic training opportunities for a diverse cohort of graduate; (3) facilitate network building and collaboration across consortium members; and (4) provide training, technical assistance, and resources to strengthen seafood operations engaged in local and regional seafood systems. A particular focus will be on working with communities based in or serving rural, low income, and/or low food access areas. The overarching goal of this project is to strengthen America's food system by supporting a diverse and resilient seafood economy in the United States.

Start date(s): Fall 2022, Winter 2023, Fall 2023

Benefits

Graduate student	Postdoctoral fellow
Fellowship stipend of up to \$32,000 per year Graduate student health insurance	Salary of \$58,000 per year Employee health insurance and benefits



Full tuition (6-9 credits/academic semester) Travel stipend for professional development (\$1,000 per year) Location: University of Maine (Orono, Maine)	Travel support professional development and modest research start-up funds Location: University of Maine (Orono, Maine) or remote
Funding will support research assistants for up to 2 years	Funding will support the fellow for 18 months

Interested in applying?

Interested candidates are encouraged to write to Joshua Stoll (joshua.stoll@maine.edu). Please include a copy of your CV, brief explanation of your interests in this work, and any other relevant information.

Land acknowledgement

The University of Maine recognizes that it is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot Nation, where issues of water and territorial rights, and encroachment upon sacred sites, are ongoing. Penobscot homeland is connected to the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations — the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Mi'kmaq — through kinship, alliances and diplomacy. The university also recognizes that the Penobscot Nation and the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations are distinct, sovereign, legal and political entities with their own powers of self-governance and self-determination.