

Postdoctoral Research Scholar – Fish Ecology
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
Oregon State University – Corvallis

Position: We seek a Quantitative Fish Ecologist interested in fish spatial ecology, predator-prey interactions and the effects of marine environments on habitat quality of pelagic fishes. The Postdoctoral Research Scholar will help develop and run spatially-explicit habitat quality models of fish growth rates based on prey availability and physical/chemical conditions **to assess the impact of hypoxia on living resources in the Gulf of Mexico**. The successful candidate will also run data analyses, publish papers, give scientific presentations and work with an interdisciplinary team. Experience with fish bioenergetics modeling and analyses, working with large data sets and good writing skills preferred.

Project Title: Integration and Modeling of High Resolution Zooplankton and Fish Data to advance understanding of the pelagic ecosystem in the Northern Gulf of Mexico.

Synopsis of the Proposed Project: Zooplankton and small pelagic fish provide the foundation for commercially and recreationally important fishes in the Northern Gulf of Mexico (NGOMEX) and serve as the critical link between primary productivity and higher trophic levels. The NGOMEX region is dominated by seasonal hypoxia (dead zone) that can drive dynamic changes in food-web relationships, fish growth and survival. With previous NOAA and NSF funding, our research team (with the University of Maryland) has conducted 7 summer mapping cruises in the NGOMEX to gather high-resolution data to define the spatially-explicit relationships between environmental conditions (temperature, salinity, oxygen, phytoplankton), zooplankton (optical plankton counter) and pelagic fishes (underwater acoustics). We are currently funded by the National Academy of Sciences to integrate, synthesize and model these comprehensive, synoptic data to assess how hypoxia influences these pelagic communities and living resources in the region.

Interested? Please send an email and copy of vitae to Professor Stephen Brandt at:
Stephen.brandt@oregonstate.edu