Post-doctoral researcher in plankton/numerical ecology, Sorbonne University

Applications are invited for a postdoctoral research associate in plankton/numerical ecology starting on 1 November 2021 to work on a project co-funded by OFB, Sorbonne University and Ifremer. This is a full-time position for a period of 20 months.

Closing date for applications: 30 September 2021

Keywords: Gelatinous plankton, Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Good Environmental status, Indicators, Pelagic habitats

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Location: Paris, France – UMR BOREA (Team SOMAQUA) - French National Museum of Natural History / Sorbonne University
Salary: 1800€ to 2200€ per month (net of taxes), depending on experience
Hours: Full Time
Contract Type: Fixed-Term/Contract
Duration: 20 months
Starting date: 1st November 2021

Project Description

As part of the French MSFD "Pelagic Habitats" monitoring programme, gelatinous zooplankton communities (abundance, taxonomy, size and biomass) have been sampled in all French marine sub-regions of the Mediterranean Sea, Bay of Biscay, Celtic Seas and English Channel since 2015. Monitoring was carried out during DCF fisheries surveys, following the harmonised protocol of Aubert et al. (2018).

The successful candidate will be involved in the GELATINE ("GELAtinous plankton INdicators for Ecological status") project which aims to analyse existing data in order to:

- Achieve a better understanding of the seasonal and interannual dynamics of gelatinous communities (taxonomy, size spectrum, biomass) at the scale of the French marine sub-regions.
- To implement one or more numerical methods for calculating (quantitative) abundance data from (semi-quantitative) trawl data.
- To develop gelatinous plankton-based indicators for the assessment of the Good Environmental Status (GES) of Pelagic Habitats.

She/he will be part of the Team SOMAQUA ("*Sources et devenirs de la matière organique en milieux aquatiques*"; https://urlz.fr/fMqM) from the BOREA Laboratory (French National Museum of Natural History, Paris). She/he will work in close collaboration with a stimulating group of marine ecologists (researchers, project managers, post-doctoral fellow and PhD student) with a strong experience in plankton ecology and population dynamics, also supporting public policies.

Qualifications and personal qualities

- The successful candidate will have a PhD in marine and/or plankton ecology, or another closely related discipline with a solid background in numerical methods (spatial and time-series analysis, multivariate approaches, modelling…) and plankton community analysis.
- We seek a candidate with solid experience in handling, analysing and mapping (e.g., ArcGIS/QGIS) large environmental and biological datasets, strong programming analysis (using R and/or Matlab), a high motivation, and a good research track record.
- A previous postdoctoral experience would be an advantage, but is not mandatory.
- The successful applicant should be strongly motivated, have the capability to work independently and in a structured manner, be able to work in a team and have good communication skills with different type of public (scientists, stakeholders).

We can offer

- A good and professionally challenging working environment.
- A salary between 1800€ to 2200€ per month (net of taxes), depending on experience.
- Good welfare benefits.

How to apply

Your application must include:

- A brief account of the applicant's research interests and motivation for applying for the position.
- CV.
- Transcripts and diplomas and official confirmation that the doctoral thesis has been submitted.
- List of any works of a scientific nature (publication list).

To send your application and/or for further information about the position please contact

- Dr. Eric Goberville (Sorbonne University, UMR BOREA) - eric.goberville@upmc.fr
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