

Postdoctoral Research Associate – Applied Ecology

William & Mary's Virginia Institute of Marine Science/School of Marine Science (VIMS/SMS) invites applications for a postdoctoral research associate in Applied Ecology. The position has a flexible start date to begin no later than Fall 2022.

Responsibilities: The postdoctoral research associate will join highly-collaborative, interdisciplinary research projects that investigate how coastal ecosystems respond to sea-level rise. The person in this position will collaborate with The Nature Conservancy and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to initiate a large-scale manipulative experiment designed to explore the role of fire in wetland migration and invasive species control. The primary objective of the position is to determine how to best facilitate the migration of well-functioning wetlands in the face of sea level rise. However, the successful applicant will also develop independent research topics consistent with the goals of the applicant and the [VIMS coastal wetlands group](#). The position is in [Dr. Matt Kirwan's](#) lab at VIMS, but candidates seeking appointments in the greater Washington, D.C. area will also be considered.

Qualifications: At the time of appointment, the successful candidate will hold an earned doctorate (Ph.D.) or equivalent in an environmental related discipline (e.g. geology, biology, environmental science). Required qualifications include a broad knowledge of how ecosystems respond to global change, a proven research background with strong writing ability, and experience in coastal wetlands, forests, or an analogous ecosystem. Preference will be given to those candidates with expertise in: manipulative experiments; applied ecology, conservation, or coupled human-natural processes; ecosystem response to disturbance; quantitative skills; a variety of methods associated with how relevant ecosystems respond to global change. For a complete list of required and preferred qualifications, please refer to the position description. The position will be located at VIMS and will be a one-year contract with the possibility of renewal (project has 2 years of funding).

About the Virginia Institute of Marine Science: Chartered in 1940, the [Virginia Institute of Marine Science](#) is currently among the largest marine research and education centers in the United States. VIMS has a three-part mission to conduct interdisciplinary research in coastal ocean and estuarine science, educate students and citizens, and provide advisory service to policy makers, industry, and the public. The School of Marine Science at VIMS is the graduate school in marine science for William & Mary. VIMS currently employs 52 full-time faculty members and 256 staff, and has 80 graduate students in master's and doctoral programs. There are four academic departments at VIMS: Aquatic Health Sciences, Biological Sciences, Fisheries Science, and Physical Sciences.

Application materials for the position should include: 1) a 1-page statement describing research ideas related to wetland migration; 2) a 1-page cover letter identifying availability for the position and addressing all required and preferred qualifications; 3) a full curriculum vitae; and 4) the names (including titles and institutions), e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of 3 professional references. Application materials should be addressed to: Search Committee Chair, Applied Ecology, and will be accepted through our On-Line Application System <https://jobs.wm.edu/postings/45888>. Review of applications will begin February 21 but the position will remain open until filled and late applicants are encouraged to contact the search chair.

William & Mary values diversity and invites applications from underrepresented groups who will enrich the research, teaching and service missions of the university. William & Mary is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and encourages applications from women, minorities, protected veterans, and individuals with disabilities. William & Mary conducts background checks on applicants for employment.