

**Post-doctoral or Post-Graduate Research Fellow Position**  
**Utah State University, Dept. of Watershed Sciences**  
*Quantitative Lake Ecology*

We seek a quantitative post-doctoral or post graduate (MS) research scientist to assist with three food web modeling experiments and a variety of other analytical projects for data sets describing two large and important lake ecosystems, Pyramid Lake, NV and Utah Lake, UT. In addition, the successful candidate will supervise the summer collection of fisheries field data on beautiful Bear Lake, UT/ID.

Pyramid Lake, NV is home to several important native and endemic fishes including Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (LCT). The lake supports a very popular fishery. Even though creel surveys suggest the numbers and size of the fish being caught is stable or increasing, several important questions remain that must be answered in order to best manage this important fishery and to conserve this native fish community. Utah Lake is a large lake in central Utah that has been exposed to a plethora of anthropogenic disturbances including aquatic invasive species, eutrophication, and heavily regulated lake levels. We aim to take advantage of nearly two decades of physical and biological data to determine the relative roles of anthropogenic disturbances and identify novel management options in both systems.

Expanding on our previous work on both of these ecosystems, we seek a post doc/grad to aid in building fish-centric, food web models for Pyramid and Utah Lakes, taking advantage of robust time series of limnological and fish data describing multiple trophic levels. We will explore the utility of some existing food web models (e.g., EcoSim), but may consider building our own model (e.g., SEM). These models will ultimately be used to guide lake and fisheries management. Additional analyses and modeling experiments may be necessary and encouraged.

The successful candidate will have strong quantitative skills with a background including some modeling and simulation methods, as well as some experience with large, messy data sets and analysis. Some training can be provided if the candidate is quantitative. In addition, strong written and oral communication skills are critical, and the successful candidate should be able to work well in a team. Opportunities and efforts to publish peer-reviewed manuscripts associated with components of the project will be provided and encouraged. Opportunities to gain teaching experience are available, as well as opportunities for training.

Term of appointment is one year with the likely potential for extension depending on funding and fit. Preferred start date is ~ June 2016, but dates are negotiable. Salary is commensurate with experience (~ \$35-50,000/yr + full benefits = add on 44%). This is a competitive salary in Cache Valley, Utah, where living costs are relatively low. All local travel and professional travel costs will be covered. The position closes when filled. Scientist will be located in Logan at Utah State University in the Department of Watershed Sciences. Interested candidates should send inquiries, letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and contact information to Phaedra Budy ([phaedra.budy@usu.edu](mailto:phaedra.budy@usu.edu)) and Jereme Gaeta ([jereme.gaeta@usu.edu](mailto:jereme.gaeta@usu.edu)).