

Bonefish and Tarpon Trust (BTT) and Florida International University (FIU) seek a postdoctoral researcher.

Duration: 2 years

Start date: Open until filled

Annual Salary: \$60,000

Location: Position is based in Miami, FL @ FIU, but remote work is welcomed.

About the position: We seek a talented and enthusiastic postdoctoral researcher with excellent human dimensions and quantitative skills to lead research aimed at providing needed alternative approaches to fisheries assessment and management. The focus will be to develop methods that use local ecological knowledge (LEK, from anglers and fishing guides) to assess the status and trends of economically-valuable and data-limited recreational fisheries. Traditional fisheries management relies on formal stock assessments, which are only applied to a handful of species with adequate data; while worldwide the majority of fisheries remain data-limited and unassessed. Further, developing monitoring and assessment plans for all fisheries is an unattainable goal. Thus, there is a need for alternative, robust and standardized assessment approaches that can be rapidly and effectively applied to data-limited fisheries, and can allow for proactive fisheries management.

This research aims to develop quantitative assessment techniques that are LEK-based to assess fisheries condition and identify conservation and future research needs. The study focuses on the South Florida Bonefish and Tarpon catch-and-release flats fisheries, but the intent is to develop an approach that is broadly applicable to other data-limited fisheries to complement standard fisheries assessment. The position provides a unique opportunity to work collaboratively with academic and nonprofit institutions, stakeholders and resource managers to drive new paradigms in fisheries management. Opportunities for synthesis of previously collected datasets, for collaboration with research partners, and for mentoring graduate and undergraduate students are available. We invite candidates with experience in social ecological systems and LEK-based approaches and no fisheries background to apply.

Requirements: A Ph.D. in conservation biology, social-ecological systems, ecology, fisheries science, quantitative ecology, anthropology, human dimensions, or related field

is required. Applicants must have a demonstrated record of publication in peer-reviewed journals, and excellent coding skills in R.

Preferred qualifications: The ideal candidate has excellent quantitative, human dimensions and communication skills, and a career interest in knowledge co-production and partnerships with stakeholders (such as anglers and fishing guides). Experience working with mixed method approaches, LEK or TEK, survey techniques, interview tools, and in collaborative research projects are preferred.

How To Apply: Please email Dr. Jenn Rehage and Dr. Aaron Adams at rehagej@fiu.edu & aaron@bonefishtarpontrust.org with the subject line "Postdoc 2022 + your name." In your email, please include (as a single PDF):

□ CV with list of references

□ Cover letter describing experience, expertise relevant to position & career goals

□ Examples of products (peer-reviewed publications, popular articles, outreach products, etc.)

About BTT & FIU:

BTT is a science-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, whose mission is to conserve and restore bonefish, tarpon and permit fisheries and their habitats. Through research, stewardship, education and advocacy, BTT works to protect and enhance healthy, functioning flats fisheries and habitats throughout Florida and the Caribbean, and executes its mission by partnering with universities and institutions.

FIU is Miami's public research university, and one of the youngest R1 research universities (highest research activity) in the US. FIU is also the largest majority-minority serving institution in the country, and ranked among the top 20 public universities contributing to the public good. The Coastal Fisheries Lab focuses on how fishes and recreational fisheries track anthropogenic disturbance, and conducts research to inform management, conservation, and restoration efforts in partnership with stakeholders to coproduce science that is both fundamental and actionable.