



1 June 2024

39 Wildflower Lane
P.O Box 83
Beals, Maine 04611-0083

Research Scientist – Ocean Carbonate Chemistry/Marine Biology

Role and Responsibilities

The Downeast Institute (DEI) seeks a motivated and creative marine biologist with expertise in ocean and sediment carbonate chemistry. This individual will oversee both internal and external research and operation of an ocean acidification laboratory as well as conduct experiments in the laboratory and field to determine effects of ocean acidification (OA) on the biology and ecology of local, commercially-important shellfish. This research will be facilitated by state-of-the-art shellfish hatchery facilities at DEI where we have been rearing bivalves and crustaceans for the past 35 years. The successful candidate will work closely with the Institute's Director of Research and its staff to maintain and operate the OA laboratory, and promote interactive research with outside investigators who utilize DEI facilities for OA research.

The OA laboratory is designed to study impacts of global environmental changes on marine organisms, with a focus on full factorial ocean acidification and warming experiments using replicate tanks that are fully physically and statistically independent (see: <https://downeastinstitute.org/our-facility/for-scientists/ocean-acidification-laboratory/>). The successful candidate will be responsible for recommending and acquiring appropriate equipment and supplies for the OA laboratory and for the field to conduct manipulative experiments to examine how current and anticipated future carbonate chemistry of seawater and sediments affect life-history dynamics of local shellfish. The successful candidate will have broad, in-depth knowledge of shellfish biology/ecology as well as carbonate chemistry related to seawater and sediments. They will have experience writing successful grants, and maintaining, improving, and working in the OA laboratory. The position (including salary, fringe) is funded for a period of 24 months.

Requirements

The ideal candidate will have/be:

- 1) A Ph.D. in Marine Biology or Marine Chemistry, or a related field;
- 2) In-depth understanding of shellfish biology/ecology/physiology, and seawater carbonate chemistry;
- 3) Experience working in an OA laboratory;
- 4) Experience working with infaunal and epibenthic shellfish;
- 5) A desire to play a key role in developing new technologies;
- 6) An independent thinker and problem-solver who is an enthusiastic and collaborative professional with excellent written and oral communication skills;

- 7) A proven ability to work well in a team environment;
- 8) Experience writing and obtaining extramural funding for research grants;
- 9) A successful track record of published peer-reviewed journal articles related to OA research; and,
- 10) Passionate about working in a rural setting in the newest marine laboratory on the east coast of the United States.

Company Description

The Downeast Institute is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation that is located on a 16-acre coastal campus in far eastern Maine in the town of Beals. It operates the easternmost marine research laboratory and education center in the United States, as well as a production and research shellfish hatchery. The pristine, cold water location and state-of-the-art venue provides exceptional capacity for scientists, marine educators, and their teams. As the University of Maine at Machias' Marine Science Field Station and local experiential classroom, DEI enriches the education of local youth, university students and the visiting public. We culture commercially important shellfish seed, restoring and creating economic opportunities for harvesters, aquaculturists, and other entrepreneurs throughout coastal Maine and beyond. DEI's mission is *to improve the quality of life for the people of downeast and coastal Maine through marine research, marine science education, and innovations in wild and cultured fisheries*. DEI has a staff of fifteen, and a 14-member volunteer board of directors. For more information, please visit <https://downeastinstitute.org/about-us/>. DEI offers a competitive benefits package.

We are interested in every qualified candidate who is eligible to work in the United States. That is, applicants must be authorized to work for any employer in the United States; however, we are not able to sponsor or take over sponsorship of an employment visa.

Materials must be submitted electronically to bbeal@downeastinstitute.org with "Application for Research Scientist Position" in the subject line.

Required material includes: Cover Letter, References, Resume/CV, and Transcripts.

All required materials must be submitted by 1 July 2024.

Appropriate background screening will be conducted on the successful candidate.

A 1 September 2024 starting date is preferred.

The Downeast Institute is an Equal Opportunity Employer.