

Position ID

E17-51

Position Title

Coastal and Ocean Data Services Coordinator

Office Name

National Centers for Environmental Information, NOAA

Portfolio Summary

The demand for high-value environmental data and information has dramatically increased in recent years. To improve our ability to meet that demand, NOAA formed the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) by merging three data centers located around the country. NCEI is responsible for hosting and providing access to one of the most significant data archives on Earth, with comprehensive oceanic, atmospheric, and geophysical data. From the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun and from million-year-old sediment records to near real-time satellite images, NCEI is the Nation's leading authority for environmental information.

Core Project 1: NOAA Ocean and Coastal Council (NOCC) Executive Secretariat for NESDIS

The NOAA Ocean and Coastal Council (NOCC) serves as the principal advisory body to the NOAA Administrator and focal point for the agency's ocean activities and interests. The purposes of the NOCC include the coordination of ocean and coastal activities across NOAA, NOAA's activities to implement the priorities of the National Ocean Policy and its representation in the new ocean governance structure, and NOAA's participation in the interagency National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP). Members of the Council include the NOAA Line Office leadership at either the Assistant Administrator (AA) or Deputy AA levels. In this position, you will serve as the NESDIS executive secretariat, responsible for supporting the NESDIS rep to the NOCC by coordinating NESDIS input and position statements, arrangement of speakers and materials prior to the meetings, preparatory planning with council co-chairs and/or the other line office executive secretariats, and coordination of action items and any NESDIS responses. This position provides a high-level view of coastal and ocean issues across the entire organization as well as regular interaction at the highest levels of the agency.

Core Project 2: Coastal and Marine Data Science and Stewardship

For this portion of your fellowship experience you will be supporting activities within the NCEI Center for Coastal, Ocean, and Geophysics Information Services (CCOG). This Center has staff located across 4 locations, and the fellow will gain experience working with this wide geographic distribution. The goal of CCOG is to develop and deliver use-required products and services that bring together data providers, data consumers, scientists, and resource managers as a basis for support of coastal and marine ecological and observational processes. Projects for this portion of the position will be varied and developed depending on the interests and experience of the fellow. CCOG is interested in undertaking a review of the products and services they are currently providing and develop an engagement strategy to better meet the needs and requirements of the data users. The project will likely include visits to all NCEI locations to conduct interviews with the product principals, and will result in a report and implementation plan presented to NCEI leadership. NCEI is also planning to develop data management components for research and restoration projects that will be submitted to the 2018 RESTORE Council call for proposals. Coordination across participating NOAA Line Offices as well as other federal, state and local agencies, as well as academic partners is expected. The fellow is also given the flexibility to explore other ongoing NCEI activities or develop new coastal and marine data products and services.

Expertise Desired

Ability to communicate technical and scientific material to a variety of audiences concisely, in person and in writing. The candidate's interest, motivation and ability to adapt to and participate in a broad suite of activities are more important than an exact educational track. However, the more relevant disciplines include oceanography, marine or coastal ecology, data science, and marine policy. This position is designed to offer a Fellow a diverse mix of assignments with broad intra/inter-agency exposure. The Fellow can expect to gain enhanced writing, coordination, planning and problem solving skills, and exposure to cutting-edge coastal, marine and data science issues.

Travel within DC (days per month)

~2 days per month

Travel outside DC (days per month)

2-3 days, ~3x/year

Accepts Foreign Nationals

No