

Postdoctoral Research Associate in Wetland Ecology – Nicholls State University, Louisiana

The Wetland Plant Ecology Lab in the Department of Biological Sciences at Nicholls State University is recruiting a postdoctoral research associate to contribute to a suite of projects investigating the following topics:

- 1) Meta-analytic synthesis of *Deepwater Horizon (DWH)* oil spill impacts on wetland function and stability. This project will use a broad, collaborative approach to synthesize data on *DWH* oiling impacts and recovery of wetland plants (primary focus), benthic macroinvertebrates and infauna, shoreline erosion, and soil-oil characteristics, as well as an overall integrated summary.
- 2) The effects of coastal restoration on deltaic wetland sustainability. This project will address uncertainties associated with the use of large-scale river diversions as a restoration technique by investigating the interactive effects of nutrient enrichment and sediment availability on wetland plant productivity, biomass allocation, soil physicochemistry, and soil integrity.
- 3) The long-term impacts of coastal eutrophication on wetland blue carbon. This project will assess the effects of chronic nutrient enrichment on soil carbon via plant-microbe interactions in the rhizosphere.

The successful candidate for this position will be a highly productive, self-directed, and independently-motivated individual possessing the following qualifications:

- A Ph.D. in biology, botany, chemistry, soil science, marine/coastal science, environmental science, or closely related field
- Strong understanding of statistics and experimental design, including SAS or R programming
- Previous field experience working in coastal wetland ecosystems, including driving/trailer a boat
- Previous laboratory experience conducting plant physiological, soil biogeochemical, or microbial assays
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with demonstrated ability to publish
- The ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously.

The appointment is for 18 months at a salary of \$45,000 per year (plus benefits), with the possibility of an extension if funds are available. The target start date is February 1, 2018, though a slightly later date is negotiable.

To apply, qualified candidates should email the following information as a single PDF document to Dr. Sean Graham (sean.graham@nicholls.edu) by December 17, 2017: (1) a cover letter describing research experience, interests, and goals, (2) curriculum vitae, and (3) the names and contact information for three professional references.