Human Dimensions Post-Doc Position Available,  
Long-term Agroecosystem Research Network

The Archbold-UF LTAR site (https://ltar.ars.usda.gov/; www.archbold-station.org; https://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu) is seeking a post-doctoral research fellow to conduct human dimensions research at the USDA LTAR network level (https://ltar.ars.usda.gov/research/) and LTAR site level. The ABS-UF LTAR site, one of 18 in the LTAR national network, is a joint partnership between the Archbold Biological Station and University of Florida, Range Cattle Research and Education Center, representing subtropical humid grazinglands in the sensitive Greater Everglades Ecosystem. ABS-UF encompasses multiple cow-calf cattle operations totaling ~4,800 cattle and nearly 9,000 ha. The primary focus of this LTAR site is to develop sustainable agricultural production systems that will integrate environmental and socio-economic needs from Southeastern US region, to national scales. The Archbold-UF LTAR will contribute to the overall goal of the LTAR Network, to develop scientifically-based information, technologies, and management practices that achieve the following agricultural sustainable intensification goals:

a) Increase the amount, efficiency, and resilience of agricultural production;

b) Enhance ecosystem services such as biodiversity, water quality, greenhouse gas mitigation, among others;

c) Assess and promote rural prosperity (e.g., quality of life, community and economic resilience, collaborative capacities);

Buck Island Ranch, both an operational cattle ranch and an experimental field station, is a key part of the Archbold-UF LTAR (See our two documentaries https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6_WhY3aZB0, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rGV_G6dnYHg).

The post-doctoral research fellow will be co-mentored by Dr. Betsey (Elizabeth) Boughton and Dr. Hilary Swain. This position will provide opportunities for cross-disciplinary engagement and the interaction with academic researchers, agricultural producers, and stakeholders. The fellow will also be supported by a group of social science researchers within the LTAR network.

Network Level Research is a key focus of this post-doctoral research position. The post-doc will engage with the LTAR Human Dimensions working group and select a subgroup to collaborate with. The post-doc is also encouraged to propose and lead new network level research projects. Current areas of work in the LTAR Human Dimensions working group include:

1. Stakeholder Engagement for Long-Term Research in a Network Science Context
2. Indicators of human context and well-being: building on indicators for regionalization
4. Human Dimensions of Agroecosystems
5. Spatial variability in the likelihood of the adoption of innovations

Site Level Research. The post-doc will also work on human dimensions research at the site level, focused on the region of the Archbold-UF LTAR. The post-doctoral fellow is expected to develop their own site level research. The project may be related to the environment and agriculture, rancher/farmer decision-making, behavior, and adaptive capacity, and social-ecological/agro-ecological systems, among other relevant topics.

Specific Research Responsibilities:

- Be an active member and collaborator within the LTAR Human Dimensions working group and contribute to network level research;
- Conduct original research aligned with Archbold-UF LTAR research focus described above;
- Lead manuscripts, research reports, and conference presentations;
- Engage stakeholders in research and technology development.

Required qualifications include: A working knowledge of ranching/cow-calf production in the US sufficient to engage in research on topics of interest to the agricultural community is required. Knowledge of ranching in the southeastern US will be helpful. Experience working in interdisciplinary teams and with remote academic and non-academic partners is a plus.

1. PhD in a relevant field (e.g. sociology, geography, natural resources, ecology, economics, or agriculture) with research experience related to social science or socioeconomic approaches a requirement.
2. Excellent data management, writing, and communication skills;
3. Interest in time-series and longitudinal data across scientific fields and experience with various data sharing platforms and software for data analysis.
4. Must have authorization for US employment.

Salary Range and Benefits:

Starting salary is $50,000. Archbold offers a full benefits package including health insurance coverage upon employment and a retirement package following one year of employment.
Start-Date:
Flexible, but preferred October/November 2021. Partial remote work is a possibility but some on site presence will be required. Flexible work schedule. Funding is approved for one year. The position may be extended depending on available funding and performance. Post-doctoral positions generally are expected to last 2-3 years if funding is available and performance is satisfactory.

To apply send cover letter describing your interest in the position, a resume or CV and contact information for three references to Dr. Betsey Boughton at eboughton@archbold-station.org.

Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, Minorities, Veterans and Disabled Persons are encouraged to apply.

Applications due by September 8, 2021.