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EcoClimate News Southwest

August 2022

Apply Now to Attend SWAF 2022!



The 2022 Southwest Adaptation Forum will be held at the [Indian Pueblo Cultural Center](#) in Albuquerque, New Mexico and will begin in the afternoon of Monday, October 10th, and end in the afternoon of Wednesday, October 12th. There will be no fee to attend. Building on work started at the [2018](#) and [2021](#) SWAFs, we will further explore topics relevant to adaptation practitioners in the Southwest, such as cultural burning, drought, and ecosystem transformation.

attend SWAF 2022 (if so, this application will also serve as your event registration).

[Apply Here!](#)

SWCASC is Hiring an Administrative Support Professional!

The Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center (SW CASC) is hiring a part-time, extended-temporary employment Administrative Support Professional I. This position will have a proactive approach to resolving day-to-day roadblocks, and the incumbent will work directly with the Assistant Director, learning the logistical duties needed daily to facilitate the operational flow of the SWCASC.

This is a part-time, in-person position located on the University of Arizona campus with an hourly rate of \$22.95 - \$28.85 per hour, depending on experience. This position is eligible for full benefits.

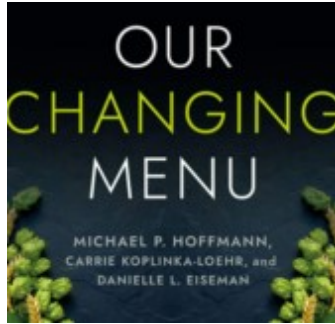
Qualifications for this position include:

- A bachelor's degree or equivalent advanced learning attained through experience
- 1 year of relevant work experience is required
- More than 3 years of administrative support work experience preferred
- Experience coordinating virtual and in-person meetings
- Outstanding interpersonal skills, time management, and adaptability
- For the full job posting, with additional information and details about applying, click below.

[Apply Here!](#)



Come Rain or Shine Podcast



We interview Dr. Mike Hoffmann about climate change and the foods we love and need. Dr. Hoffmann is one of the authors of *Our Changing Menu*, a book published in 2021 about a complicated and nuanced topic – how climate change is impacting our food supply.

[Listen Here!](#)

Management Responses to Vegetation Type Conversion Play Important Role in Southwest Forest Climate Adaptation



Recent research published in [Fire Ecology](#), and partially funded by SW CASC, concludes that some southwestern ecosystems are experiencing persistent changes in vegetation type, referred to as vegetation type conversion (VTC), following large-scale disturbances such as high-severity wildland fire. The researchers sought to understand current land management responses to VTC to help inform future management decisions by convening workshops with managers, scientists, and practitioners. At the workshops, they collected 11 case studies and 61 examples of VTC from field observations of the participants.

[Read More!](#)

Climate, Clouds, and the Connection to Solar Energy



Dr. Rachel Clemesha is an atmospheric scientist with the SW CASC whose work focuses on California coastal climate and clouds. She grew up in southern California where she was used to the sight of the region's low-lying early summer clouds, known as "May gray." Rachel always knew she wanted her career to be something with an environmental tilt to it, but with a strong science background. She took an atmospheric chemistry class during her undergraduate degree that was the ideal blend of what she wanted to study.

After finishing her undergraduate degree in chemistry at University of California San Diego (UCSD), she went on to study at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. In 2010 she earned her MS in earth sciences and her PhD in oceanography in 2015.

Despite building a successful career as an atmospheric scientist, Rachel's childhood dream was actually to help endangered species. In recent years, this dream has come full circle, when she helped make a new satellite-derived low cloud record(also known as a cloud retrieval) for San Clemente Island, which is a Navy owned and operated island where there are lots of endemic and endangered species. The cloud retrieval was to help with the management and recovery of some of those species.

[Read More Here!](#)

Fellows' Highlight

Seeing the Stream for the Watershed: Identifying Opportunities for Climate Resilient Stream Restoration Practices



Kelly Loria is pursuing a Ph.D. in Environmental Science at the Desert Research Institute. Below are her reflections on the [SW CASC Natural Resources Workforce Development \(NRWD\) Fellowship](#).

Streams are a place of integration, having both unique local site-based processes along any given riffle or pool, but also connecting time and space in their gravitational transport of materials to lowland ecosystems. They can be creatively considered as one of nature's most active collaborations.

Traditionally, stream restoration focused on the two-dimensional approach, where upstream features dictated downstream outcomes. Recently this focus has expanded to include more dimensionality to account for the influence that lateral and vertical movements of water, materials, energy, and organisms, may collectively exert on the character of the stream corridor. This pattern of movement and stability is a dynamic equilibrium, where streams and rivers respond quickly to changes and reach a new equilibrium state. However, contemporary climate change-based threats are tipping the scales at a rate which may hamper the capacity of streams to effectively reach new dynamic equilibrium. This anthropogenetic imbalance is threatening key stream ecosystem functions around the timing, delivery, and quality of water.

Read More!

Contact us at:

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