



Gulf Research Program Science Policy Fellowship 2021 Host Offices

Host offices are located in each of the five Gulf States and surrounding areas, and may be federal, state, or local government agencies or non-governmental organizations.

The 2020 host offices and placement descriptions are listed in this document and will be updated on an ongoing basis during the application period. Applicants should look over these placement descriptions to get a sense of the range of work they might undertake during a fellowship and the locations of the host offices.

Applicants should not contact host offices during the application period. If selected for a fellowship, applicants will be provided contact information.

2021 Science Policy Fellowship Host Offices:

1. [Bureau of Ocean Energy Management \(BOEM\)](#)
2. [Department of Environmental Protection Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection \(Florida\)](#)
3. [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) – Gulf of Mexico Division \(GMD\)](#)
4. [Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services](#)
5. [Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council](#)
6. [Houston Advanced Research Center \(HARC\)](#)
7. [Louisiana Office of the Governor \(Coastal Activities\)](#)
8. [Mobile Baykeeper](#)
9. [Mobile Bay National Estuary Program](#)
10. [NOAA – National Centers for Environmental Information \(NCEI\)](#)
11. [NOAA-Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory](#)
12. [NOAA RESTORE Science Program](#)
13. [Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council](#)
14. [Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Coastal Fisheries Division](#)
15. [The Data Center](#)
16. [U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service / Northern Gulf of Mexico Sentinel Site Cooperative](#)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Organization Type	Federal Government Department of Interior
Organization Address:	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), New Orleans Office, Office of Environment (Mail Stop: GM 678E), 1201 Elmwood Park Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70123-2394
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://www.boem.gov/

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

BOEM's environmental program ensures that environmental protection informed by science and law is a foremost concern and an indispensable consideration in BOEM's decision-making. BOEM studies coastal, marine, and human environmental impacts when making decisions on how to effectively promote economic development, and promote environmental protection. BOEM's Environmental Studies Program develops, funds, and manages rigorous scientific research specifically to inform policy decisions on the development of energy and mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). Research covers physical oceanography, atmospheric sciences, biology, protected species, social sciences and economics, submerged cultural resources and environmental fates and effects. Mandated by Section 20 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, the Environmental Studies Program is an indispensable requirement informing BOEM's decisions on offshore oil and gas, offshore renewable energy, and the marine minerals program for coastal restoration. The ESP has provided over \$1 billion for research to this end since its inception in 1973. The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) requires examination of environmental sensitivity and marine productivity in potential lease areas for the National OCS Program. Environmental sensitivity and marine productivity are two of the prime considerations in the Secretary of the Interior's decision about size, timing, and location of future lease sales. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 is the foundation of environmental policymaking in the United States. The intent of the NEPA process is to help public officials make decisions based on an understanding of environmental consequences and take actions that protect, restore, and enhance the environment.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

The GRP Fellow will:

- Assist in developing, funding, and managing rigorous scientific studies that will inform policy decisions on the development of energy and mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). Areas of Research covers physical oceanography, atmospheric sciences, biology, protected species, social sciences and economics, submerged cultural resources and environmental fates and effects.
- Works closely with staff coordinating federal consultations, environmental studies, and NEPA documents to ensure that the information being used is appropriate.
- Assists in conducting assessments of the adequacy of existing information base relative to program and management needs.

- Assists in identifying specific environmental problems which may be addressed as research or study efforts.
- Participates in the preparation of regional study plans and coordinating the development, design, procurement, administration, and evaluation of major oceanographic study programs.
- Provides technical expertise on all questions or problems pertaining to the Fellow's area of expertise and provides recommendations and technical guidance.
- Represents BOEM at professional meetings, and on task forces or committees involving Federal, State, or private agencies and individuals.
- Promotes communication and coordination with Federal, State and local, professional, industry, academic, and general public agencies.

Department of Environmental Protection Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection (Florida)

Organization Type	State Government
Organization Address:	3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS #235, Tallahassee, FL
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://floridadep.gov/rcp

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

The Department of Environmental Protection protects, conserves and manages Florida's natural resources and enforces its environmental laws to advance our state's position as a world leader in protecting natural resources while also growing the economy. The Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection (RCP) manages over five million acres of submerged and coastal lands, including forty-two aquatic preserves and, in coordination with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, three National Estuarine Research Reserves, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and the Coral Reef Conservation Program. RCP also administers the Florida Coastal Management Program; Clean Boating Programs and Clean Vessel Act Grant Program; Florida Resilient Coastlines Program; Outer Continental Shelf Program; Beach Field Services Program; Coastal Engineering and Geology Group; the Coastal Construction Control Line Program; the Beach Management Funding Assistance Program; and the Beaches, Inlets and Ports Program. RCP staff in these diverse programs include experts in scientific research and monitoring, coastal engineering, data management, natural resource management, education and outreach, administration and policy. As the primary division responsible for promoting resilience and climate preparedness in Florida, RCP approaches the wide portfolio of issues it manages with adaptation for the future in mind, including coral reef protection, preservation of coastal and aquatic managed areas, beach and inlet management, and the implementation of ecosystem restoration projects. Together, these efforts aim to prepare Florida's coastal communities and state-managed lands for the effects of future storms, such as coastal flooding and erosion, as well as sea level rise and other impacts of climate change.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

The Fellow will work primarily with the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP), assuming a lead role in organizing and facilitating meetings to broaden awareness of the Program's activities around the state, expand partnerships and collaborations within the coastal management community, and to discuss local coastal management and coastal resilience issues. The Fellow will also work on the Statewide Ecosystem Assessment of Coastal and Aquatic Resources (SEACAR) project team, to translate ecological data into easy-to-use, publicly available documents capable of informing Florida's diverse population of coastal stakeholders and providing increased awareness to legislators and the public to improve environmental literacy, provide support for scientifically sound programs, and promote policy changes when necessary.

Through their day-to-day work, Fellows will develop and exercise diverse work skills, such as project and meeting planning and management, communication and technical skills, grant writing and data analysis.

In addition to the primary projects within FCMP, Fellows will learn about coastal policy and management at the state level more broadly, while embedded with one of the largest and most dynamic divisions of Florida DEP. Fellows are encouraged to participate in outreach and collaborative activities and to network with statewide RCP staff and partners (e.g., other state, local and federal agencies, universities and non-governmental organizations), and additional fellowship activities depend on each Fellow's individual interests, but have included reviewing grant proposals for funding competitions, assisting with monitoring or site visit activities and attending leadership meetings or shadowing members of leadership or staff in other areas of the division.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Gulf of Mexico Division (GMD)

Organization Type	Federal Government
Organization Address:	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Gulf of Mexico Division, 22150 14th Street, Suite 1212, Gulfport, MS 39501
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-gulf-mexico-division-gmd

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

EPA's Gulf of Mexico Division (GMD) serves to protect, maintain, and restore the health and productivity of the Gulf of Mexico in ways consistent with the economic well-being of the Gulf region. The office's principles include:

- Committing to voluntary, non-regulatory solutions
- Taking action based on sound scientific and technical information working with partners and the public
- Identifying priority areas and actions through state and coastal community leadership; and
- Providing federal leadership in research, monitoring, scientific analysis, and financial resources to
- Support state and community action.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

Since its inception in 1988, GMD has developed multiple jurisdictional agreements with federal and state partners as well as international partners. With the cooperation of its partners, the GMD successfully implements and funds projects that lead to a thriving ecosystem. The projects center on:

- Improving and/or restoring water and habitat quality to meet water quality standards in watersheds throughout the five Gulf States and the Mississippi River Basin.
- Promoting and supporting environmental education and outreach to the inhabitants of the Gulf of Mexico watershed.
- Strengthening community resilience by promoting and supporting environmental education and outreach to the general public and vulnerable communities.
- Protecting, enhancing or restoring coastal and upland habitats within the Gulf of Mexico watershed.

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Organization Type	State Government
Organization Address:	400 S, Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399 (* Note: we have offices throughout the state and can be flexible where the Fellow can work)
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://www.fdacs.gov/

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services offers an outstanding opportunity for a Science Policy Fellow, as its mission is broad: to safeguard the public and support Florida's agricultural economy by:

- Ensuring the safety and wholesomeness of food and other consumer products through inspection and testing programs;
- Protecting consumers from unfair and deceptive business practices and providing consumer information;
- Assisting Florida's farmers and agricultural industries with the production and promotion of agricultural products; and
- Conserving and protecting the state's agricultural and natural resources by reducing wildfires, promoting environmentally safe agricultural practices, and managing public lands.

The Commissioner is one of only six statewide elected officials and one of three of the Governor's Cabinet Members. Therefore, the Fellow has a unique opportunity to inform and apply science policy to a myriad of issues of interest to her/him. The Fellow will be a critical member of our Science Advisory team that works across the department to foster cutting edge, interdisciplinary studies under the guidance of the department's Director of Strategic Initiatives and Chief Science Officer. With a home office in the state's capitol building in beautiful north central Florida (or other Florida sites as requested), the Fellow will have a selection of a wide variety of hands-on projects throughout the state, traveling as little or as much as his/her interests dictate.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

The Department works in the One Health arena – the intersection of human, animal and environmental health, finding solutions to wicked problems. The experience for the Fellow will be customized to his/her interests. A sampling of projects include participating in the Departments' hemp program, or preparedness vulnerability analyses, the Division of Aquaculture's development of aquaculture use zones in the Gulf of Mexico or off-shore aquaculture, the Division of Agriculture Environmental Services' assessment of fertilizer usage, implementation of pollinator protection plans or citrus greening control work by the Division of Plant Industry staff in central Florida, the Division of Animal Industry's laboratory

innovation implementation, and the execution of the new FDA Food Safety Modernization Act through the Division of Food Safety. Additional projects could include working with other divisions and offices within the department such as the Office of Water Policy, Policy and Budget or the Florida Forest Service.

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Organization Type	Federal Government
Organization Address:	500 Poydras Street, Suite 1117, New Orleans, LA, 70130
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://www.restorethegulf.gov/

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) was established by the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act). Consisting of the five Gulf Coast states and six federal agencies, the Council's mission is to implement a comprehensive plan for the ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast. Over the next 15-20 years, will be overseeing ~\$3.2 billion in restoration activities across the Gulf. To date the Council has awarded ~\$255 million in funding for restoration activities such as hydrologic restoration, land conservation, and planning for large-scale restoration projects. The Council itself is an independent Federal entity and has a staff composed of approximately 23 full-time employees. The staff is divided into Programs, Grants, and Administrative Staff. Programs side of the Council staff includes a Program Director, a Director of Policy and Environmental Compliance, a Science Advisor and Coordinator, a Director of Public and Tribal Affairs, and three Ecosystem Restoration Specialists. This team works collaboratively to implement the programmatic goals and commitments of the Council. The geographic structure of the Council staff is particularly interesting in that we are spread across the Gulf. While our primary office is in New Orleans, where the fellow would be located, we have staff that telework from Tampa, FL, Mobile, AL, Biloxi, MS, Baton Rouge, LA and Galveston, TX. This distributed workforce model means that we rely on technology to allow us to coordinate and collaborate across the Gulf.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

A GRP Science Policy Fellow with the Council would be working in the Programs staff with the Science Advisor and other staff to support the Council as it allocates funding to approved restoration projects. Activities may include helping ensure that restoration projects are being implemented based on the best available science (including supporting/writing policy updates to the science review process); assisting Council staff in developing and implementing an adaptive management policy; reviewing grant applications for consistency with proposals and Council goals and objectives; assisting Council staff reviewing monitoring and data management plans; and aiding in setting up restoration project-specific data monitoring protocols. There will also be opportunities to facilitate coordination among other Gulf agencies and non-profit organizations, and attend RESTORE Council meetings across the Gulf. Previous fellows have helped coordinate workshops among Gulf of Mexico scientists, assisted with coordination of adaptive management across agencies/projects, collaborated on grant proposals, and presented on Council activities at National conferences. A small Council staff means no task is too big or small for anyone, so the opportunities for a GRP fellow to dive head first into a world where science meets policy abound!

Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC)

Organization Type	Non-profit Organization
Organization Address:	8801 Gosling Rd., The Woodlands, TX 77381
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://www.harcresearch.org/

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

Founded in 1982, the Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit research hub located in The Woodlands, Texas with a mission to provide independent analysis on energy, air, water, and climate issues to all stakeholders – including local government agencies, nonprofits, the private sector, and the general public – seeking to build a sustainable future. Through our focus on sustainability and multi-disciplinary collaboration, we strive to integrate research-based evidence into the policies, response strategies, and decisions of communities, governments, and businesses. HARC is a boundary organization that uses scientific knowledge and data analytics expertise to create a sustainable world in which the stewardship of energy, air, and water resources is managed wisely and equitably. Our vision of sustainable stewardship seeks to advance human health, quality of life, equity, and economic growth for future generations in Texas and along the Gulf Coast.

HARC's research is driven by the importance of problem solving with a systems approach. We bring together air, energy, and water expertise in a way that provides practical, science-based solutions to communities to identify and mitigate risk. Our work in air quality research and management includes air quality modeling, emission reduction technologies, emissions monitoring technology, and policy. HARC's energy research guides policymakers and industry leaders towards improvements in areas such as electric power resilience, energy efficiency, distributed energy resources, and methane emissions reduction. HARC's water research emphasizes water quality and quantity, watershed management, biodiversity and ecological function, and ecosystem informatics.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

The Houston region has experienced six federally declared flooding disasters in the last five years and is routinely stressed by poor air and water quality, risk of vector-borne diseases, extreme heat, drought, and water supply issues. The Houston-Galveston region has recognized a critical need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote strategies that prioritize public health, environmental quality, economic development and community equity and resilience. Over the next two years HARC is working to develop new programs in climate risk to improve the ability of different sectors in our region to anticipate and build resilience to future climate impacts. HARC proposes to work with a Science Policy Fellow to support the development of this new climate risk program area, which will include reaching across disciplines, developing data tools and applications, conducting stakeholder engagement, and influencing policy and decision-making at the local, regional, and statewide levels.

A fellow will work across a wide range of projects and teams that seek to understand and mitigate the impacts of climate change on communities, air quality, energy supply, water resources and ecosystems.

Examples of project teams the Fellow might participate on, include implementation of the City of Houston Climate Action Plan; air quality assessments and planning; implementation of the Resilient Houston Plan; climate mitigation strategies; groundwater management: assessment and mitigation of extreme heat and urban heat islands; the Galveston Bay Report Card; green/nature-based infrastructure assessments; HARC's Net Zero Energy HQ; and cross disciplinary research efforts that address issues of equity and environmental justice.

Louisiana Office of the Governor (Coastal Activities)

Organization Type	State Government
Organization Address:	1051 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://gov.louisiana.gov/page/governors-office-of-coastal-activities

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

Our team within the Louisiana Governor's Office is the policy and intergovernmental arm of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. We support the Governor's Executive Assistant for Coastal Activities who is the Governor's point person on all things coastal and the chairman of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board. We provide policy support for the adoption, implementation, and funding of Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast. We are also staffing Gov. Edward's Climate Initiatives Task Force which is developing the state's first greenhouse gas reduction strategy; the Adaptive Governance Initiative focused on building resilience to future environmental change across state government; nutrient pollution; providing support to the Louisiana Watershed Initiative; the Atchafalaya River Basin, and more.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

Fellows could provide assistance on any of a number of ongoing projects, or preferably, assume full responsibility for a policy area that is in need of additional attention. General areas of work could include:

- Developing and leading efforts to work across agencies within Louisiana and across states to reduce nutrient pollution in the Mississippi River and its impacts to ecosystems;
- Advising on the drafting of legislation or policy to further Louisiana's ability to adapt to climate change, support the coastal master plan, or build community resilience;
- Advising on the implementation of policies or programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, further the implementation of the coastal master plan, or build community resilience;
- Assist with communicating the science of coastal land loss, flood vulnerability, and other climate impacts to the public and key stakeholders.

Mobile Baykeeper

Organization Type	Non-profit Organization
Organization Address:	450-C Government St., Mobile, AL, 36602
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://www.mobilebaykeeper.org/

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

Mobile Baykeeper has served the Mobile Bay area for more than 20 years working to provide citizens a means to protect the beauty, health, and heritage of the Mobile Bay Watershed and our coastal communities. We are the environmental watchdog, informed voice of reason, and collaborator for solutions working to ensure responsible growth, drive smart investments in infrastructure, and educate and engage the community. Our focus areas are threefold: 1) we educate and engage citizens by raising awareness, hosting education programs, and providing opportunities to engage such as litter cleanups, invasive species removal, or water quality sampling; 2) we resolve environmental issues related to stormwater, wastewater, industrial development, and commercial use of the Bay; and 3) we protect our future by ensuring responsible growth, engaging early in regional planning, and monitoring and addressing key issues.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

A Fellow joining the Mobile Baykeeper team would be able to select different opportunities from among four focus areas: 1) field/lab work; 2) policy and regulatory research; 3) project and grants management; and 4) problem solving through communication and collaboration.

- 1) Citizens call in concerns about landfills, sewage spills, industrial pollution, constructions sites, etc. The Fellow would respond by reviewing the problem in the field, tracking it to the source, and collecting, processing, and analyzing water sample results. Data collected is used to understand magnitude of pollution problem identified and help define solutions needed to address the pollution. From designing sampling plans to interpreting results to presenting solutions, a Fellow would learn about several related but distinct sectors of environmental science in a very practical and solution-oriented manner.
- 2) As air or water permits are requested, a Fellow would have the opportunity to work with agency leads through reviewing and commenting on permit applications and review new regulations that could affect the Mobile Bay Watershed.
- 3) Baykeeper is managing 2 major grants aimed at reducing and cleaning up litter and reducing single-use plastics. A Fellow could be involved in writing, managing, data collection, researching, and/or reporting on those grants as well as lead the related communication effort.

- 4) A Fellow could work with leaders from the community, business, and industry to implement solutions found for the other efforts. Baykeeper participates in a variety of issues providing an incredible opportunity for involvement and expertise building for a potential fellow.

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program

Organization Type	Non-profit Organization
Organization Address:	118 N Royal St, STE 601, Mobile, AL 36602
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	http://www.mobilebaynep.com/

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

The Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) was created in 1995. The MBNEP is one of 28 estuaries located along the Atlantic, Gulf, and Pacific coasts and in Puerto Rico designated as estuaries of national significance. All are administered through and funded by the EPA under provisions of the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1987. A State-sponsored program through the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, the purpose of the MBNEP is to bring together engaged and diverse communities committed to developing consensus on what our ecosystem priorities are, how to achieve them, and how to facilitate and promote their implementation.

Specifically, the mission of the MBNEP is to promote wise stewardship of the water quality characteristics and living resource base of the Mobile Bay estuarine system. We are a non-regulatory program, so we implement our Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan, a blueprint for conserving the Mobile Bay estuary, by bringing together citizens; local, state, and federal government agencies; businesses and industries; conservation and environmental organizations; and academic institutions. The current CCMP, published in 2013 and updated in 2018, is titled "Respect the Connect", meant to convey the deep connection that coastal Alabamians have with our living resources through emphasis on six citizen-identified values: fish and wildlife, heritage and culture, resilience, beaches and dunes, water quality, and access.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

Work at the MBNEP is varied and ongoing but is primarily focused on execution of the work outlined in the CCMP. The success of these activities is monitored through the regular assessment of environmental status and trends as well as the environmental response to restoration activities conducted through the MBNEP.

To that end, we are seeking a fellow to assist the current Science and Monitoring lead in determining the most cost-effective and efficient metrics for evaluating trends in habitat condition related to MBNEP watershed management efforts based both on current practices and available literature. The fellow will also lead an effort to compile and synthesize research data from restoration projects, which will include some data analysis. Additionally, the fellow will help the Science and Monitoring lead to develop methods for including community-based values into established monitoring programs and approaches for encouraging communities to invest in restoration and green infrastructure.

The fellow will engage with multiple resource agencies, community leaders, and environmental scientists where they will see firsthand how science is translated into policy and community action.

NOAA – National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)

Organization Type	Federal Government
Organization Address:	National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI), 1021 Balch Blvd; Suite 1003, Stennis Space Center, MS 39520
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/

- Organization Type: **Federal Government**
- Organization Address: **National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI), 1021 Balch Blvd; Suite 1003, Stennis Space Center, MS 39520**
- Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work? **Yes**
- Website: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/>

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) hosts and provides access to one of the most significant 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 ice core records to near-real-time satellite images, NCEI is the Nation's leading authority for environmental information.

By preserving, stewarding, and maximizing the utility of the Federal government's billion-dollar investment in high-quality environmental data, NCEI remains committed to providing products and services to private industry and businesses, local to international governments, academia, as well as the general public.

The demand for high-value environmental data and information has dramatically increased in recent years. NCEI is designed to improve NOAA's ability to meet that demand. By using consistent data stewardship tools and practices across all science disciplines and by forging an improved data management team, users will see an improvement in the overall value of our environmental data archives. The transition to NCEI will take time, with the final integration anticipated beyond 2020. An overriding principle throughout the formation of NCEI is transparency to our users and commitment to continuing to provide the geophysical, oceans, coastal, weather and climate data users have come to rely on.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

The GRP Fellow will work with DWH and restoration data collection agencies to identify the data management workflow from collection activities through management parties and ultimately to the appropriate archives. The Fellow could perform a gap analysis between the NAS data management guidelines and NCEI data stewardship practice. The GRP Fellow can follow an activity-specific review through the entire process that would include working with the other offices such as NOAA's Offices of Response and Restoration (ORR) and their DIVER system, and Habitat Conservation (OHC) planning the data stewardship needs for the Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities Open Ocean Restoration

Group. The fellow could assist in developing and reviewing intra- and inter-agency agreements (IAAs or MOUs) for stewardship of DWH restoration data. The GRP Fellow could also assist in various consultation efforts which may include working with external DWH stakeholder such as academics or state agencies.

There will be opportunities for the fellow to provide input on questions or problems pertaining to the Fellow's area of expertise and provide recommendations and technical guidance. There may also be opportunities to attend professional meetings, and serve on task forces or committees involving Federal, State, or private agencies and individuals.

NOAA-Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory

Organization Type	Federal Government
Organization Address:	NOAA/AOML, 4301 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, FL 33149
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://www.aoml.noaa.gov/

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

The Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (AOML) conducts research to understand the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics and processes of the ocean and the atmosphere, both separately and as a coupled system. The principal focus of these investigations is to advance knowledge that leads to more accurate forecasting of severe storms, better use and management of marine resources, better understanding of the factors affecting both climate and environmental quality, and improved ocean and weather services for the nation. The Ocean Chemistry and Ecosystems Division (OCED) at AOML conducts research to understand how the various pressures on marine ecosystems affect their ecology and in turn how these changes in ecology affect the delivery of ecosystem services to coastal communities. This includes transitioning our research to applications that improve the management of coastal and marine ecosystems and the resiliency of coastal communities. We accomplish these transitions by working cooperatively with our partners in resource management, restoration and with stakeholders directly.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

Increase interactions with stakeholders (resource management, commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, restoration practitioners) to convey how the research conducted by AOML/OCED can be used to help them accomplish their jobs and missions. For example, we conduct research examining how recreational sportfish will respond to Everglades Restoration. The fellow could work with the recreational fishing community, including for hire guides, that fish the coastal Everglades and show how AOML's research suggest that Everglades Restoration can improve their fishing. We also work with the commercial fishing industry to better understand how red tide affects ecosystems and ultimately their fishery landings. We are trying to collect data and put out products that the fishermen can use to better understand the ecosystem conditions in their fishing grounds. The fellow could be a vital link in this process to make sure we are developing products that are useful to commercial fishermen and the surrounding coastal community.

NOAA RESTORE Science Program

Organization Type	Federal Government
Organization Address:	NOAA / NCEI, 1021 Balch Blvd., Suite 1003, Stennis Space Center, MS 39529
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://restoreactscienceprogram.noaa.gov/

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

The NOAA RESTORE Science Program is an applied ecosystem science program. Our mission is to support research, observing, and monitoring that promotes the long-term sustainability of the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem. We accomplish our mission by working with the research and management communities to design and run funding competitions. Once we make awards we work closely with the project teams especially on the transfer of their research findings and products to end users. We also explore ways to promote the use of science to inform management decisions through workshops and communicating with stakeholders. In the long-run, the Science Program aims to accomplish two outcomes:

- 1) Understand the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem in an integrative, holistic manner and,
- 2) Have the management of the ecosystem, including restoration, guided by this understanding.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

Specifically, a fellow placed in our office would learn how a federal grants program works by assisting in the 1) design of funding competitions, 2) the review of funding applications, and 3) the management of existing awards including assisting project teams in transferring their findings and products to end users. The Science Program seeks to stay connected to the research and resource management communities in the Gulf of Mexico and the fellow would get the opportunity to build their professional network by meeting with researchers and managers to learn about their needs and the latest science. We are committed to coordinating with other programs in the Gulf of Mexico and the fellow would also build their network through helping to maintain strong ties between the Science Program and other funders in the region. Overall, the fellow will gain new knowledge and experience about the intersection of science, resource management, and policy.

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

Organization Type	Regional Government
Organization Address:	4000 Gateway Center BLVD, STE 100, Pinellas Park, FL
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	http://www.tbrpc.org/

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

Established in 1962 by the State of Florida, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is an association of local governments and gubernatorial representatives whose mission is to serve the citizens and member governments of the Tampa Bay Area, consisting of Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas Counties, by providing a forum to foster communication, coordination, and collaboration in identifying and addressing issues and needs regionally.

In October 2018, the TBRPC members formed the Tampa Bay Regional Resilience Coalition which currently includes 31 local governments who are committed to collaborating to increase community resilience. Through the Coalition, elected officials, staff and stakeholders meet regularly to define critical issues, data needs, discuss policy and governance regarding extreme weather and potential impacts of climate change.

The TBRPC collaborates with the local governments, universities, agencies and non-profit organizations to conduct technical and economic assessments, policy assessments and develop new tools and resources to support planning and policy making on a diverse range of topics. The TBRPC staff are involved in national and state networks, and numerous local initiatives from environmental resources, hurricane preparedness, transportation, economic development.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

In 2021-2022, the Fellow will have the opportunity to work on one of several new resilience initiatives which are funded by federal agencies and private foundations. The initiatives include the following:

Resilience and Energy Assessment of Communities and Housing (REACH). The REACH project will deploy and test new assessment tools and programs to integrate affordable housing, neighborhoods and community redevelopment into climate vulnerability assessments and resilience planning. The Fellow will have the opportunity to conduct research and develop resources and policy recommendations focused on the intersection of social/racial equity and affordable housing and resilient communities.

Resilient Sustainable Coastal Tourism: Tourism is the leading industry in the region, and is at risk to extreme weather and climate change. The region is interested in a sector specific climate vulnerability assessment and economic analysis to define potential risks under different scenarios and impacts to diverse tourism and recreation businesses, and understand attitudes related to resilience investments.

Supporting Nature-Based Adaptation Planning. In October 2021, the TBRPC and Coalition members will complete the Regional Resilience Action Plan (RRAP). The RRAP will include goals for local governments

and regional collaboration to support restoration of habitats and ecosystems, and advance the use of nature-based adaptation for community resilience benefits.

The Projects may include the following activities, based on the Fellow's skills: using software/tools to model scenarios; creating new maps and geospatial data; compiling and analyzing current research, policy and plans; co-facilitating workshops; writing summaries, reports and developing recommendations and presentations.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Coastal Fisheries Division

Organization Type	State Government
Organization Address:	4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	https://tpwd.texas.gov/about/administration-divisions/coastal-fisheries

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

The Coastal Fisheries Division's long-term vision involves ensuring that Texas coastal ecosystems are ecologically healthy and sustaining economic and recreational opportunities for 1.1 million saltwater anglers and outdoor enthusiasts. The CF Division is responsible for making fisheries management, habitat conservation, and water resource recommendations that support a coastal resource-based economy valued at more than \$2 billion annually. This mission is being accomplished by:

- a) Managing and conserving the marine environment including ecosystems, resources, and habitats, and providing fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities;
- b) Facilitating the collection, computerization, summary, analysis, and reporting of routine monitoring and special study data; conducting research and coordinating cooperative projects;
- c) Recommending, implementing, and evaluating fisheries management measures; and,
- d) Maintaining freshwater inflows and instream flows of sufficient quality and quantity to sustain the ecological health of Texas Rivers, springs, lakes, and estuaries.

In order to accomplish the goals, set out above, long-term data fisheries dependent and independent data monitoring programs are conducted, along with other special studies to ensure that the appropriate data is collected to attempt to manage for the changing landscape of aquatic resource management in Texas. Additionally, programs that enhance and conserve habitats, fisheries enhancement (stocking programs), artificial reefs, and habitat monitoring are all part of the approach to managing the ecosystems in Texas estuarine and gulf waters. Coastal Fisheries also routinely completes surveys of customers to determine their motivations, attitudes and how various regulatory changes may impact them and how that in-turn may impact the individual's behavior.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

The following issues or data programs are areas that the fellowship opportunity will afford. These will require interaction with outside interest groups, other TPWD, state and federal agency personnel. Some key items for Coastal in the coming year include: opportunities to continue working with an oyster mariculture program getting underway in 2021; continued effort underway to automate data capture across sampling programs, ongoing R3 (recruitment, retention and reactivation) efforts for anglers, hunters and outdoor enthusiasts and any rulemakings for 2021 legislative session outcomes. Coastal Fisheries is well known for the 30+ year program it has for monitoring fish and other aquatic organisms

(fishery independent data) and the long-term angler catch data (fishery dependent) programs. Each year data for key species are reviewed to determine whether regulatory changes are needed. Additionally, activities within the habitat arena include oyster reef restoration, baseline documentation of seagrass, oyster reefs, wetlands, water quantity and quality, and other habitats to determine how they are impacting aquatic resources. Texas, like other western states, has been facing increasing competition for water resources and this has led to longer-term water planning. Participation in helping Coastal to better communicate our science-based work to various audiences would be part of any role within the Division.

The Data Center

Organization Type	Non-profit Organization
Organization Address:	1515 Poydras St, Suite 1240, New Orleans, LA 70112
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	www.datacenterresearch.org

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

The Data Center (a product of Nonprofit Knowledge Works) is an independent nonprofit data intermediary and research organization. We have been effectively disseminating reliable, trusted, high-impact data and analysis since 1998. Our track record is based on effectively communicating with stakeholders across southeast Louisiana, and many private organizations and governmental entities rely on The Data Center's information to guide their research, decision-making, and collaboration on shared regional issues. One of The Data Center's most influential publications, The Coastal Index, examines the economy of Southeast Louisiana's coastal restoration and water management industry and has formed the backbone of our research and analysis on the economic and human effects of coastal land loss, and adaptation efforts.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

We are open to working with the fellow who would apply their skills to supporting existing projects, or collaborating to develop a more self-directed project if appropriate. Either way, the fellow will have opportunity to gain on-the-ground experience in the interface between data analysis, policy, and stakeholder-driven communication. We take data communication very seriously. Depending on interest, the fellow could join a team to contributing to the following areas:

- Ongoing work to improve and iterate our Coastal Index website as a responsive resource to coastal and economic development stakeholders.
- Develop and implement in-depth research projects that provide actionable information relevant to coastal adaptation and the economy of water management.
- Contributing to core data center products and developing new technologies and approaches to increase the accessibility of data.
- Contribute to day-to-day activities like grant-writing, stakeholder feedback, quality assurance, and information design.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service / Northern Gulf of Mexico Sentinel Site Cooperative

Organization Type	Federal Government / MS-AL Sea Grant Consortium
Organization Address:	USFWS: 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960. MS-AL Sea Grant: 1815 Poppo Ferry Road, Biloxi, MS 39532
Is the organization address the same as the location where the fellow would work?	Yes
Website	Southeast Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: https://www.fws.gov/southeast/ Northern Gulf of Mexico Sentinel Site Cooperative: http://masgc.org/northern-gulf-of-mexico-sentinel-site-co/about

Briefly describe your organization's mission and focus of your work:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is a science-based management agency. We work with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the benefit of the American people. We meet our mission through administering over 560 National Wildlife Refuges, enforcing federal wildlife laws, protecting endangered species, managing migratory birds, and restoring fisheries.

We also increasingly recognize that people are a fundamental part of conservation. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's mission statement is itself the articulation of a human value. Fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats matter to people. The resources entrusted to us to conserve, protect and enhance hold importance and meaning to the American public we serve.

Even the science emanating from the Service – both directly from Service scientists and indirectly through collaboration with researchers in other state and federal agencies and academia – affects decisions by many of our partners. We must not only be excellent scientists, but also effective communicators and collaborators, comfortable working at the nexus of science and policy.

Social science practitioners inside and outside of the Service are helping the agency communicate more effectively and tackle increasingly complex and value-laden conservation issues, such as habitat fragmentation and invasive species. Simultaneously, large-scale socio-economic trends are shifting how Americans relate to wildlife. The social sciences are providing insights into these trends while helping identify broader social benefits of our conservation work.

Briefly describe the work a fellow placed in your office could take on:

We are seeking a NASEM Gulf Research Program Science Policy Fellow to work alongside U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and key partner organizations to enhance conservation outcomes through effective communication and collaboration.

The Fellow will spend their time in Mississippi, Alabama, or Florida with the Northern Gulf of Mexico Sentinel Site Cooperative working with local natural resource managers to improve on-the-ground conservation outcomes.

While working in these sites, the fellow will gain hands-on science policy experience through a variety of projects including, but not limited to:

1. Assisting the Northern Gulf of Mexico Sentinel Site Cooperative in testing and refining engagement strategies designed to stimulate sea-level rise resilience action.
2. Conducting cost-benefit analyses of sea level rise adaptation actions for local, state, and federal agencies.
3. Collaborating on an existing project with the Fish and Wildlife Service to integrate science application tools into conservation and management decision-making.

By participating on some or all of these projects, the fellow will have a variety of duties, such as:

1. Utilizing collaborative approaches to ensure that communications practitioners are maximizing their effectiveness.
2. Engaging directly with scientists to identify how to better align their research with needs of decision- makers in local, state and federal agencies.
3. Serving as a key contact in fostering and maintaining conversations that translate science into policy.