

Hydrology Post-Doctoral Position
Available at the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes (CW3E)
Part of UC San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography

Location: La Jolla, CA.

To apply: Please send CV, cover letter and 3 references to Luca Delle Monache (ldellemonache@ucsd.edu) and Rachel Weihs (rweihs@ucsd.edu)

Deadline: Position is available immediately. Preference will be given to applications received by 26 April 2019, but applicants will be considered until the position is filled.

The Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes, (CW3E; cw3e.ucsd.edu) is a research and applications center established in 2014 at Scripps Institution of Oceanography by its Director, Dr. F. Martin Ralph. CW3E focuses on the physical understanding, observations, weather predictions of extreme weather and water events to support effective policies and practices to improve resilience in the Western U.S. CW3E carries out its goals with a diverse network of research and operational partners at more than ten other institutions across the U.S. Individuals will be joining a group of several existing Postdoctoral scholars and graduate students, and a number of experienced faculty, researchers and staff at Scripps who are involved with CW3E.

CW3E seeks a Postdoctoral researcher to design and contribute to efforts that lead toward improved operational application of distributed hydrologic and hydrometeorological sciences. The position would work on research that improves hydrologic model performance associated with extreme events. Anticipated methodologies include data assimilation (DA) techniques that leverage in-situ soil moisture observations and remotely sensed observations, improving hydrologic model parameterization, calibration and determining the most appropriate unbiased atmospheric forcings for hydrologic model applications from NWP output. Additionally the candidate would develop guidelines for parsimonious application of hydrologic models in time and space and evaluation processes and metrics for hydrologic model simulations and forecasts that isolate areas of potential improvement. The research would support the development, by the candidate, of a prototype decision support system that combines a variety of observed and forecast information to aid in operational decision making. Through the research the candidate would continually develop and support a connection between CW3E and California-Nevada River Forecast Center operational forecasts systems and U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC). The candidate should have experience with WRF-Hydro and/or GSSHA (Gridded Surface/Subsurface Hydrologic Analysis), hydrological model development, calibration, application, and verification. Additional experience in developing observed datasets for forcing hydrologic models and operating hydrologic and hydraulic models in a forecasting mode using NWPs or other sources is also desired.

Applicants should have 0-2 years of Postdoctoral experience, or be nearing completion of their Ph.D. (estimated within 3 months), and be self-motivated and hard-working.

Good written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to produce scientific publications and presentations and meet project milestones are required. Strong analytical backgrounds with a Ph.D. in hydrology or environmental engineering is preferred. Programming experience working in a Unix environment with experience in scripting languages such as Python, Perl, R and Matlab is highly desired. Successful applicants should be comfortable independently working with large code libraries and databases, utilizing large meteorological data sources, and producing novel visualizations.

Per normal Postdoctoral appointment policies, all positions are envisioned as being initially for 1-year, with extension possible contingent upon performance and availability of funding. The University of California, San Diego is an AA/EOE.