

The Geomorphology Laboratory at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), led by Dr. Tian Y. Dong, is seeking a postdoctoral researcher to join us on a collaborative project funded by the U.S. Geological Survey. **The candidate must start on-site on or before August 9th, 2026** (remote work is not allowed).

What is the project about:

- Detecting geomorphic change in the lower Rio Grande Valley using airborne LiDAR datasets collected in 2011 and 2022
- Interpreting geomorphic changes to address applied questions about the US-Mexico border and the Rio Grande
- Using the high-resolution LiDAR dataset and numerical models to address broader questions in geomorphology and hydrology
- Performing fieldwork on the lower Rio Grande, taking advantage of the unique location of UTRGV directly adjacent to the banks of the river

Who are the team members:

- Dr. Tian Y. Dong, UTRGV, primary mentor and project PI
- Dr. Timothy Goudge, University of Texas at Austin, collaborator
- Dr. Joel Sankey and David Dean, USGS Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center in Flagstaff, AZ, collaborators
- Former Postdocs on the grant (now tenure-track): Haiqing Xu (UNLV) and Olagoke Daramola (Kennesaw State U.)

What do we offer:

- 12-month appointment with a salary range of \$44,000 to \$61,000, depending on experience, and full benefits, including health insurance and retirement plan contributions (The Rio Grande Valley enjoys a vigorous and growing economy with a high standard of living and one of the country's lowest living costs)
- Support attending AGU and purchasing research equipment (e.g., laptop)

What skills are required for this position:

- A Ph.D. in Earth or Planetary Sciences or related disciplines at the time of appointment
- Experience in working with LiDAR change detection and derived DEM.

What skills are desirable but not required for this position:

- Experience in using numerical models, including but not limited to hydrodynamic, morphodynamics, and landscape evolution models.
- Drone survey and data processing experience
- Field experience in geomorphological and hydrological surveys
- Experience in mentoring undergraduate and graduate students

Apply here by July 7th: <https://careers.utrgv.edu/postings/51559>