Title: Assistant Research Scientist – Coastal and Marine Science

Location: University of Florida/IFAS
School of Forest Resources and Conservation
Fisheries and Aquatic Science Program
at The Florida Aquarium
701 Channelside Drive
Tampa FL 33602

Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience

Review Date: For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit additional materials by November 27, 2012. The position will open until a viable applicant pool is determined.

Duties and Responsibilities:
This is a full-time (12 month), 100% research, non tenure-track position affiliated with the Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences (FAS) Program in the UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation (SFRC). The position is supported with funds provided by the Florida Aquarium (FLAQ) and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). The successful candidate will be housed at the Florida Aquarium. The Assistant Research Scientist is expected to develop an extramurally funded and internationally recognized research program in the field of marine and coastal science as evidenced by the production of peer-reviewed journal articles and the successful application, management and execution of grants and other fundraising initiatives. The focus of the research will be on marine and coastal science issues which support the management and sustainability of the state’s multi-billion dollar saltwater sport fishing industry and currently established and future conservation and research initiatives associated with The Florida Aquarium. Specific research topics might include, but are not limited to, coral culture and restoration, marine fish breeding, dolphin ID, marine archaeology, and coastal and marine habitat conservation, e.g., coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangrove stands. The successful candidate will help to establish an internationally recognized partnership in marine and coastal science at the Florida Aquarium in Tampa, conduct research that will inform management decisions in marine and coastal ecosystems, especially as they might relate to saltwater sport fish and their supporting habitats, aquatic animal rescue and rehabilitation efforts, and utilize the resources of a major public aquarium to extend the scientific findings to the general public. As a part of this program, the candidate will also have strong involvement with the establishment and management of an FWC/FLAQ facility to house the expansion of these initiatives. Collaborative research with FLAQ, FWC scientists and/or UF faculty is expected and establishing partnerships with other research institutions and local, regional, state and federal agencies is anticipated. The scientist is, in fact, encouraged to work closely with FWC and FLAQ scientists and FAS faculty to develop an innovative and integrated program targeted at coastal and marine management and conservation needs in Florida.

Qualifications:
An earned doctorate (foreign equivalent acceptable) in marine science, fisheries, biological sciences, or other discipline related to natural resource management is required. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of
the Land-Grant system. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS’ core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability. We are seeking specifically to appoint a scientist-scholar with a track record of developing innovative, integrative approaches to contemporary issues in coastal marine ecology and conservation.

**Background Information:**

The School of Forest Resources and Conservation ([www.sfrc.ufl.edu](http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu)) at the University of Florida is located in Gainesville, a culturally diverse community in north central Florida. The SFRC has teaching, research, and extension education programs in three broad areas: Forest resources and conservation; Geomatics (surveying, mapping, remote sensing, GIS and GPS); and Fisheries and aquatic sciences. There are 50 faculty members, 70 affiliate, courtesy and emeritus faculty, 150 graduate students and 150 undergraduate students in the SFRC. The Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences (FAS) Program ([http://fishweb.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://fishweb.ifas.ufl.edu/)) offers an undergraduate minor along with Master’s and PhD degrees in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences through the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida. The mission of the FAS Program is to advance scientific knowledge of the biological structure and productivity of Florida’s natural and man-made freshwater, estuarine and marine ecosystems. The FAS Program enjoys strong relationships with other campus units, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the state’s Water Management Districts, aquaculture and fishing industries, other private and public research institutions, the US Geological Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration including the National Marine Fisheries Service and Florida Sea Grant.

The University of Florida ([http://www.ufl.edu](http://www.ufl.edu)) is a Land-Grant and Sea-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 50,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences ([http://ifas.ufl.edu](http://ifas.ufl.edu)) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences ([http://cals.ufl.edu](http://cals.ufl.edu)), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station ([http://research.ifas.ufl.edu](http://research.ifas.ufl.edu)), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service ([http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu](http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu)), the College of Veterinary Medicine ([http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu](http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu)), the Florida Sea Grant program ([http://www.flseagrant.org/](http://www.flseagrant.org/)), and encompasses 15 academic departments and the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, 9 interdisciplinary centers, 13 research and educational centers throughout the state, and Cooperative Extension units in each of Florida’s 67 counties and the Seminole Tribe. The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. IFAS employs over 3400 people, which includes approximately 950 faculty and 2450 support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation’s largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Senior Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) consists of 1,947 full-time-equivalent employees, including more than 700 sworn law enforcement officers. More than 900 Other Personal Services employees also work for the FWC. All personnel work together to protect and manage more than 575 species of wildlife, 200 species of freshwater fish and 500 species of saltwater fish. The FWC works to balance the needs of these fish and wildlife species and the habitats that support them with the needs of Florida’s nearly 19 million residents and the millions of people who visit the state each year.
The work done by FWC’s Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) reaches far beyond the confines of the FWC. Research conducted on habitats, freshwater and marine fisheries, harvested and imperiled species and other important plant and wildlife communities in Florida is used by federal, state and local governments, universities, recreational and commercial fishing interests, recreational hunting and boating interests, nongovernmental organizations and the public. FWRI integrates its research activities with management efforts of other FWC divisions.

Each year, The Florida Aquarium meets its mission to entertain, educate and inspire stewardship about our natural environment by engaging over 630,000 visitors of all ages with quality natural science exhibitry and education programs. Since its opening in 1995, The Florida Aquarium has been incorporated as a 501 (c) (3) organization in Tampa’s Channelside District contributing $56,000,000 to the region’s economy annually. The 200,000 square foot facility is home to over 20,000 animals and plants, telling the Florida water story through four permanent exhibition galleries that trace the flow of a drop of water from its underground source to the open sea: Wetlands, Bays and Beaches, Coral Reef and Ocean Commotion. As an institution that is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, The Florida Aquarium must meet the highest standards in animal care, exhibit quality and educational programs.

The Center for Conservation was established in 2006 to encompass a collection of projects initiated by biological staff of The Florida Aquarium. The capacity of this program has expanded to include research and conservation efforts within six divisions: Aquarium Sciences, Aquatic Ecosystems, Scientific Diving, Rescue and Rehabilitation, Ecosystem Rehabilitation and Project Green. Subjects of focus include coral culture, reproduction and restoration; marine ornamental fish breeding; elasmobranch physiology; dolphin identification; marine archaeology; sea turtles; deep water diving research and exploration; sustainable practices; and habitat restoration.

**Employment Conditions:**

This position is available November 8, 2012, and will be filled as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. Compensation is commensurate with the education, experience, and qualifications of the selected applicant.

**Nominations:**

Nominations are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee. This information should be sent to:

**Please refer to Requisition 0901809**
Dr. Thomas K. Frazer  
Chair, Search and Screen Committee  
University of Florida  
School of Forest Resources and Conservation  
Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Program  
7922 NW 71st Street  
Gainesville, FL 32653-3071  
E-mail: frazer@ufl.edu

**Application Information:**
Individuals wishing to apply should go online to [http://jobs.ufl.edu/postings/33977](http://jobs.ufl.edu/postings/33977) and submit:

- General application
- A comprehensive cover letter that states applicant’s interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above
- Resume

Official transcripts showing receipt of the doctoral degree and three letters of recommendation should be sent to:

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Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
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Electronic Mail: frazer@ufl.edu

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The selection process will be conducted in accord with the provisions of Florida’s ‘Government in the Sunshine’ and Public Records Laws. Search committee meetings and interviews will be open to the public, and applications, resumes, and many other documents related to the search will be available for public inspection. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.