



2020 Sea Grant Fellowship Position Description

Host Agency: Monterey Bay Aquarium

Location: 886 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940

Fellowship Supervisor: Erin Eastwood | Ocean Policy Campaign Manager, Conservation and Science – eeastwood@mbayaq.org

Point of Contact: Claudia P. Tibbs | Sustainability and Operations Manager, Conservation and Science – cptibbs@mbayaq.org

Agency Background:

The Conservation and Science (C&S) Division at the Monterey Bay Aquarium focuses on conserving ocean wildlife and the marine environment. The division is comprised of three program areas: Ocean Conservation Policy, Conservation Research and Seafood Watch. C&S engages in strategies and activities to take action on behalf of ocean conservation while also collaborating with partners to achieve the Aquarium's mission *to inspire conservation of the ocean*. The Aquarium's ocean conservation priorities are to:

- **Build a constituency for the ocean**
We believe in the power of collaboration, and a commitment to science-based management, to protect ocean health for future generations. We enlist new ocean champions from government, the private sector and the public to act for the ocean—in the Monterey Bay area, in California, across the United States and around the world.
- **Restore and protect California ocean ecosystems**
The health of marine life is connected to the health of their ocean homes, which helps to sustain all life on earth. Beyond our work to conserve southern sea otters and white sharks—we're monitoring ocean biodiversity and ecosystem health. Through our policy influence and partnerships, we support and defend ocean protections.
- **Improve the sustainability of global fisheries and aquaculture**
Unsustainable fishing and aquaculture exact a significant toll on ocean health—and on human communities. As a leader in the global sustainable seafood movement, we inform fishing and aquaculture practices, as well as national and international fishery management policies—driving a market shift to ocean-healthy seafood production worldwide.
- **Reduce sources of ocean plastic pollution**
Plastic pollution is a growing global problem for ocean ecosystems, wildlife and people. Our scientists are investigating the scope and impact of plastic pollution in the marine environment. And we're using science-based information to ignite individual and collective action, championing policies and practices to reduce the flow of plastic from land to sea.
- **Combat climate change impacts on ocean health**
Carbon emissions profoundly affect ocean health, and our own survival. We advocate for policies to reduce carbon emissions, end our reliance on fossil fuels, promote clean energy and mitigate the unavoidable impacts underway. We conduct scientific research on climate change, and bring science-based information to the public, encouraging them to be a part of the solution.

As an organization, the Aquarium celebrates and embraces diversity. We foster an inclusive, welcoming environment where individual differences are respected, appreciated and recognized as a source of strength to our organization. These qualities enrich our workplace and increase our capacity to fulfill our mission.

Position Description:

The Sea Grant Fellow will contribute to the research, analysis, planning, and coordination needs of the Ocean Conservation Policy program to help achieve the Aquarium's ocean plastic pollution and climate change goals.

Potential Assignment

- Perform research and analysis of state, federal and international ocean policy issues relevant to the Aquarium's ocean conservation goals.
- Produce briefing memos, talking points, comment letters, informational folders, and similar material in support of the Aquarium's policy strategies.
- Work with the Ocean Policy team to develop and execute policy strategies at the state, federal and international levels.



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Desirable Qualifications

- Ability to work both independently and with diverse interdisciplinary teams that require clear communication.
- Experience or advanced knowledge in environmental policy, law, management, or another science-related field.
- Excellent research and writing skills.
- Outstanding verbal communication skills.
- Strong time-management and multi-tasking skills.