**NC Sentinel Site Cooperative – NC Sea Grant College Program**

**2019 Joint Graduate Fellowship**

**Request for Proposals**

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| **Purpose** **Research** **Focus Areas**  | The [North Carolina Sentinel Site Cooperative](https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/sentinelsites/north-carolina.html) (NCSSC) and [North Carolina Sea Grant](North%20Carolina%20Sea%20Grant) (NCSG) are accepting applications for the 2019 North Carolina joint Graduate Fellowship. The NCSSC was established in 2012 as part of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) effort to provide coastal communities and resource managers with information to better address coastal resiliency concerns such as sea level rise, inundation, and flooding. The goal of the NCSSC is to bring together stakeholders to leverage resources across organizations, integrate the multiple efforts within the NCSSC geography, and provide information to help stakeholders adapt to sea level rise and coastal inundation. The NCSSC is one of the five Cooperatives implemented as part of the [NOAA Sentinel Site Program](https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/sentinelsites/). Information on the NOAA Sentinel Site Program can be found at <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/sentinelsites/>. NCSG is an multi-campus program within the University of North Carolina system and is part of the national Sea Grant Network (www.ncseagrant.org).This fellowship provides North Carolina-based graduate students with an opportunity to conduct research addressing the needs of the NCSSC as identified within the Cooperative’s [implementation plan](https://aamboceanservice.blob.core.windows.net/oceanservice-prod/sentinelsites/pdf/NC_SSC_Implementation_Plan.pdf) and the [2017 NCSSC Partners Meeting NOAA Technical Memo](https://aamboceanservice.blob.core.windows.net/oceanservice-prod/sentinelsites/pdf/NC_SSC_2017_Partners_Meeting.pdf). Projects must occur within the NCSSC defined geography, which encompasses the [twenty coastal counties](https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/about-coastal-management/cama-counties) in North Carolina, plus Jones and Martin counties. The NCSSC covers a diverse array of North Carolina coastal habitats and communities; including low-lying marsh ecosystems, barrier islands, the urban center of Wilmington, and many rural communities and small coastal towns.Fellows must conduct hypothesis-based research within one or more of the following sea level rise (SLR) and inundation focus areas:**SLR i**mpacts on coastal habitats and their associated ecosystem services.Marsh and wetlands sediment supply and distribution.Economic assessments of SLR on human communities and/or coastal ecosystems.* + Impact of land subsidence.
	+ Effects of SLR on essential fish habitat.
	+ Using citizen science based efforts to better understand SLR impacts.
	+ Development of K-12 pedagogical approaches to climate and SLR education.
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| **Fellowship Amount** | $9,999/fellowship |
| **Number of Fellowships** | One fellowship is anticipated for 2019, subject to availability of federal funding and quality of the received applications. |
| **Duration** | August 1, 2019 – July 31, 2020.  |
| **Eligibility** | Only graduate students in good academic standing, attending an accredited North Carolina university or college are eligible to apply. Undergraduate students may not apply directly for funding, but undergraduate participation in the proposed project is encouraged. Projects must occur within the NCSSC defined geography. |
| **Application** | To apply, candidates must send a four-page (maximum) proposal describing the project. The proposal should be in 12-point, Times New Roman font, with 1-inch margins. Proposals must contain the following sections: 1. **Title**, including student and major professor contact information.
2. **Description** of the project including rationale, relevance of the project to the NCSSC Implementation Plan goal(s), and hypothesis being tested.
3. **Materials and Methods**.
4. Clearly defined **Tasks** and a **Timeline** to complete the tasks.
5. Description of your **Outreach/Dissemination Plan**. Specifically identify how you will disseminate your results to the appropriate audience.
6. A detailed **Budget**. Funds may only be used for travel, tuition, student stipends, and salary (i.e. undergraduate assistants). Faculty advisor support is not allowed. University overhead charges are not permitted and match is not required.
7. Declaration of **Other Sponsored Support to be received** for the overall project.

The proposal can contain one **Literature Cited** page, which is NOT included in the four-page limit.Applicants also should include a **current CV** (2-page max) and **letter of support** from their major professor. These documents do not count toward your 4 page limit.**Data Management Plan**: In addition to the above application, to comply with NOAA’s data and publication sharing directive for grants and contacts, version 3.0 (<https://nosc.noaa.gov/EDMC/PD.DSP.php>), each applicant must develop and submit with their application a data management plan (DMP). The DMP does not count toward your page limit above. Please review the guidance document above and **Attachment A** to assist you in preparing your plan. Plans will be included as part of the proposal evaluation process. Plans should be no more than 2 pages and should include: descriptions of the types of environmental data and information expected to be created during the course of the project; the tentative date by which data will be shared; the standards to be used for data/metadata format and content; methods for providing data access; approximate total volume of data to be collected; and prior experience in making such data accessible. If your project is not expected to develop any environmental data, then your DMP may simply include the declaration: “This proposal is not expected to generate environmental data. Therefore, a Data Management Plan is not required.” |
| **Deadline** | Application materials must be received **by 5 p.m. Friday, June 14, 2019**. Applications should be sent via email as a Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF document to NCSSC Coordinator Sarah Spiegler (sespiegl@ncsu.edu). Incomplete and late applications will not be accepted. |
| **Review Process** | The review panel will be co-chaired by Sarah Spiegler, NCSSC Coordinator and Dr. John Fear, Deputy Director, NCSG. Additional review panel participants may include the NCSSC Core Management Team members and other in-state experts. Proposals will be ranked based on their relevance to the identified focus areas (see list above), quality of the proposed work, and adherence to the instructions provided in this request for proposals including the need for a data management plan. |
| **Award Funding** | The successful applicant will be notified by July 8, 2019. Funding will be channeled through the fellow’s major professor, who must agree to serve as principal investigator on the project. Winning proposals will need to be vetted/approved by the major professor’s office of sponsored programs. Funding is dependent upon federal funds yet to be appropriated. Start date and funding amount may be changed based on the availability of federal funds. |
| **Products** | At the fellowship completion date, the fellow is required to submit a final report to Ms. Spiegler and Dr. Fear. Each fellow must also agree to: present her/his research findings at a NCSSC meeting; and, work with the NCSG communications team to translate the findings into an article for *Coastwatch* magazine and/or other outreach products. The fellow’s major professor must agree to respond to NC Sea Grant annual reporting calls relative to this project. |
| **Contact Information** | **Sarah Spiegler**,([sespiegl@ncsu.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cjmfear%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CTemp%5Csespiegl%40ncsu.edu))**John Fear**, (jmfear@ncsu.edu) |