Opportunity Title: USGS Understanding Ecological Efficacy of Climate Adaptation Actions Across the Climate Adaptation Science Center Network
Opportunity Reference Code: DOI-USGS-2026-23

Organization U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)

Reference Code DOI-USGS-2026-23

How to Apply ***To submit your application, scroll to the bottom of this opportunity and click APPLY.***

A complete application consists of:

- An application
- Transcript(s) – For this opportunity, an unofficial transcript or copy of the student academic records printed by the applicant or by academic advisors from internal institution systems may be submitted. Click here for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- Two educational or professional recommendations.

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

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Description ***Applications will be reviewed on a rolling-basis.**

USGS Office/Lab and Location: A research opportunity is currently available with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) located in Reston, Virginia.

The USGS mission is to monitor, analyze, and predict current and evolving dynamics of complex human and natural Earth-system interactions and to deliver actionable intelligence at scales and timeframes relevant to decision makers. As the Nation's largest water, earth, and biological science and civilian mapping agency, USGS collects, monitors, analyzes, and provides science about natural resource conditions, issues, and problems.

Research Project: Natural resource managers are increasingly asking whether management actions designed in the past or actions purposely designed to be "climate adaptive" will be effective and provide resilience into the future as environmental conditions change. However, there is limited existing empirical evidence to answer these questions. In response, the USGS National and Regional Climate Adaptation Science Centers (CASCs) have initiated and supported a number of new research projects that aim to build the evidence base for adaptation action effectiveness. For this fellowship, the selected candidate will collect and synthesize information on ongoing CASC projects to understand the scope, focus, and scale of funded projects. The synthesis will inform the development of a cross-CASC group focused on developing recommendations and lessons learned to advance the field of adaptation efficacy evaluation.

The proposed project includes:

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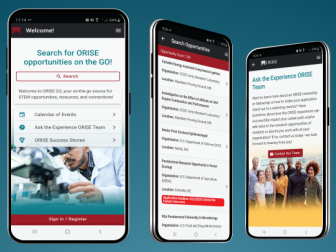
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1. Review currently funded CASC projects to identify those focused on evaluating the efficacy of climate adaptation actions;
2. For relevant projects, collect information on the scope, scale, timeline, and evaluation approach; and
3. Reach out to regional CASC staff and relevant project PIs to collect additional information on the status of the project and any lessons learned so far.

The project will include a structured synthesis of current CASC-funded projects on ecological efficacy of climate adaptation.

Learning Objectives: Expected skills and experiences gained include:

- Skills in evidence synthesis;
- Exposure to cutting-edge research and the opportunity to gain experience on a federal research agenda with implications for natural resource management;
- Professional networking and the opportunity to collaborate with USGS, university, and non-profit-based scientists and managers.

Mentor: The mentor for this opportunity is Sarah Weiskopf (sweiskopf@usgs.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor(s).

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: June 22, 2026. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

Appointment Length: The appointment will initially be for 10 weeks, but may be renewed upon recommendation of DOI and is contingent on the availability of funds.

Level of Participation: The appointment is full time.

Participant Stipend: Stipend rates may vary based on numerous factors, including opportunity, location, education, and experience. If you are interviewed, you can inquire about the exact stipend rate at that time and if selected, your appointment offer will include the monthly stipend rate.

Citizenship Requirements: This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and foreign nationals. Non-U.S. citizen applicants should refer to the Guidelines for Non-U.S. Citizens Details page of the program website for information about the valid immigration statuses that are acceptable for program participation.

ORISE Information: This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and USGS. Participants do not become employees of USGS, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE.

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Questions: If you have questions about the application process please email USGS@orau.org and include the reference code for this opportunity.

Qualifications The qualified candidate should be currently pursuing or have received a bachelor's or master's degree in the one of the relevant fields. Degree must have been received within the past four years, or anticipated to be received by 6/1/2029.

Point of Contact Rachel

Eligibility Requirements

- **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree received within the last 48 months or anticipated to be received by 6/1/2029 12:00:00 AM.
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (12)
  - **Communications and Graphics Design** (2)
  - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** (17)
  - **Earth and Geosciences** (21)
  - **Engineering** (29)
  - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** (14)
  - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (51)
  - **Mathematics and Statistics** (11)
  - **Physics** (16)
  - **Science & Engineering-related** (2)
  - **Social and Behavioral Sciences** (29)