



## Postdoctoral Researcher

### POSITION

Application deadline:	Nov. 1, 2022
Position to start:	negotiable: Jan 15 - March 1, 2023
Term of employment:	2 years
Location:	Little Cayman Island
Reports to:	Research Director

### SUMMARY

CCMI's key strategic goal is to become the new hub of Caribbean reef ecology research, unlocking the clues to coral reef resilience and bringing relevant science to society. Using a combination of large-scale in situ ecology surveys, small-scale laboratory experiments, and molecular ecology, we examine population structure, physiology, evolutionary biology, and restoration ecology on tropical coral reef ecosystems ranging from shallow inshore reefs to the mesophotic zone. Our upcoming projects range from understanding molecular and physiological mechanisms of adaptation by corals to extreme environments, to enhancing reef complexity using out-planting techniques to restore key ecosystem function. Both theoretical and applied, the research conducted at CCMI will advance our understanding of how coral reefs and all the organisms that reside there will not only survive, but thrive, under future environmental conditions.

With this in mind, we seek to hire a **postdoctoral researcher** with experience in **coral reef ecology, scientific diving, and data analysis**. The successful applicant will assist with the organization, coordination, and execution of a variety of federally funded projects focused on reef resilience and sustainability, with the opportunity to develop their own research projects within the larger umbrella of the REEL group. The postdoc will be responsible for ensuring the highest standard of experimental design, in situ field work, and data acquisition while maintaining a high rate of publication productivity and stakeholder engagement. We therefore seek a highly motivated individual that can integrate within a small team on an isolated island in a fast-paced and dynamic research environment.

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### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

The Postdoctoral Researcher is responsible for assisting with organization and execution of field and laboratory-based research associated with several research projects assessing biodiversity, resilience, and adaptation of coral reef systems. They will provide support to the Research Manager and Research Director to help coordinate daytrips and liveaboard expeditions, assist with the day-to-day operation of associated research, manage and analyze resulting data, publish results in peer reviewed scientific journal, and disseminate the research at local and international symposia and workshops. As part of a small team, the postdoc will be expected to assist the REEL lab with completion of all funded research projects as requested. Main job responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Participate and assist with organization, preparation, and execution of research projects conducted by the REEL group.
- Assist with *in situ* data collection for a variety of projects, which may include any of the following tasks:
  - Visual fish identification surveys
  - Benthic photogrammetry
  - Sample collection
  - Photophysiology measurements
  - Coral community and health surveys
  - Coral nursery maintenance and outplanting

- Prepare collection and export permits for resident and visiting scientists
- Assist collaborators with sample processing and preparation
- Coordinate sample shipment
- Conduct data analysis and create publication quality figures.
- Prepare project reports for grant agencies.
- Assist and/or lead writing of scientific publications and grant proposals.
- Any other duties as required for successful execution of the research.
- Assist with education programmes as requested by supervisor.
- Prepare program content and feedback for the advancement team for communications, sponsors/stakeholders, including content for social media, website, newsletters and the press
- Participate and assist with execution of local outreach events.

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

- PhD in Marine Science or related field
- Experience conducting and coordinating underwater field research required
- Minimum dive certification level of Rescue with nitrox required; decompression procedures certification a plus
- Certified AAUS scientific diver with experience in open ocean diving
- Strong publication record
- History of successful grant writing
- Experience handling and maintaining scientific samples and equipment
- Experience with grant reporting, budget tracking, and data management
- Excellent data analysis skills, including coding (R preferred)
- Excellent organizational, communication, and team building skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills and open to direction in a collaborative working environment
- Willingness to work odd hours when required to deliver a program
- Willing and able to reside full-time on Little Cayman

#### **OFFICE GUIDELINES**

Work week: 5 days

Location: Little Cayman, Cayman Islands

#### **SALARY AND BENEFITS**

Annual salary of US\$52,000 + benefits including paid vacation and contributions to health insurance and pension

**TO APPLY:** please send a cover letter and CV as a single PDF, and 2 letters of reference to [jobs@reefresearch.org](mailto:jobs@reefresearch.org). Application and letters of reference should include the name of the applicant in the document title, i.e. lastname\_application.pdf, lastname\_LOR.pdf.