

1. **Job Title:** [Ecosystem Service Analyst](#)

Added here on 7 Nov 2011

**Job Type:** full-time temporary position

**Opportunity location:** Travel to Latin America

**Closing date (if specified):** No date specified (will remain here for 90 days from posting date)

**Opportunity Description:**

THE NATURAL CAPITAL PROJECT  
Position Announcement  
ECOSYSTEM SERVICES ANALYST

We are a partnership among Stanford University's Woods Institute for the Environment, University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment, The Nature Conservancy, and World Wildlife Fund developing tools to model and map the distribution of biodiversity and the flow of multiple ecosystem services across land- and seascapes. We seek a creative and talented ecologist or economist with strong analytical and modeling skills to advance the development, testing and application of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystem service models.

We are a collaborative group of researchers and practitioners who seek someone with expertise in the development of simple models through regression analyses and/or simplification of complex models to develop ranking models for multiple freshwater and terrestrial ecosystem services. These models will identify where ecosystem service change is most likely to happen across landscapes. They will be the backbone for decision support tools that are being tailored for water fund design and permitting requirements in Latin America and beyond. The successful candidate will first focus on water-related services such as flood mitigation, water quality regulation, erosion control and others, then turn to terrestrial services (such as carbon sequestration, timber production, non-timber forest products, forage production, livestock production, pollination, etc). We seek applicants with diverse experience in the development and use of statistical analyses and/or models to inform natural resource decisions, and with a desire to think creatively about a broad set of biophysical and social processes.

Our core team is based in Seattle, Washington, DC, University of Minnesota and at Stanford, and we have active partners around the globe. This position is housed at Stanford University and will be advised by Gretchen Daily and Heather Tallis.

**Principal Responsibilities:**

- Develop simple models for identifying where management changes (e.g. protection, restoration, development) will have the largest positive or negative impacts.
  - o Review literature and identify existing ranking approaches for modeling individual ecosystem services.
  - o Using observed data or calibrated dynamic models, derive ranking models for ecosystem services that do not yet have applicable, published approaches.
  - o Validate simple models against established, more sophisticated modeling approaches in several project areas
  - o Work with software development team to transition models into decision support tool.
  - o Participate in stakeholder meetings where tool and underlying models are applied in trial water fund design and permitting and mitigation applications.
  - o Incorporate feedback from stakeholder meetings into model structure.
  - o Present work at academic and practitioner conferences and workshops.

**Required Qualifications:**

- Ph.D. in ecology, natural resource economics, agronomy, conservation science or related fields.
- 5 years experience in statistical analysis or model development and application, preferably for both primary research and practical settings.
- Established publication record in diverse, peer-reviewed journals.
- Strong interest in, and commitment to using science to inform policy.
- Experience working with collaborators from diverse backgrounds and the capacity and interest to work with interdisciplinary teams.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills with both technical and non-technical audiences.
- Ability to produce rigorous analyses under tight deadlines
- Preferred familiarity with geographic information systems (ArcGIS, GRASS, etc)

Term: December 1, 2011 through November 30, 2013 and beyond, contingent upon funding.

Location: The position is a postdoctoral research position located in Palo Alto, California at Stanford University and will require extensive interaction with interdisciplinary teams and travel in Latin America.

How to Apply: Send a cover letter describing your experience and interest, as well as a CV and contact information for three references to [gail.kaiser@stanford.edu](mailto:gail.kaiser@stanford.edu) with ECOSYSTEM SERVICES ANALYST in the subject. We will begin reviewing application November 18, 2011 and the position will remain open until filled.

Stanford University is committed to equal opportunity through affirmative action in employment and we are especially eager to identify minority persons and women with appropriate qualifications.

More information on the project can be found at [www.naturalcapitalproject.org](http://www.naturalcapitalproject.org) and <http://invest.ecoinformatics.org>.

**For more info, contact:**

Gail Kaiser, [gail.kaiser@stanford.edu](mailto:gail.kaiser@stanford.edu)