

Postdoc Position - Global Biodiversity of Butterflies

A new, 2-3 year postdoc position is available in association with the [Yale Center for Biodiversity and Global Change](#) (BGC Center), the [GEO BON](#) Species Populations Working Group, [Map of Life](#), and the [Jetz Lab](#). The position is part of a larger, collaborative initiative to advance a conservation-relevant knowledgebase for focal taxa at a global scale, supported through the [E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation](#) and associated sponsors, NASA and others. The postdoc will benefit from working closely with a growing group of Center-based biodiversity scientists, modelers, coordinators, and informaticians and from engaging with a global collaborative network of species group and methods experts worldwide. Support for project-related travel and workshops is available. Target start date for the position is spring through fall 2020.

We are seeking an innovative thinker with a strong quantitative background who is interested in addressing ecological, conservation, biogeographic, or macroevolutionary questions for butterflies as a global study system. Qualifications for the position include a PhD in ecology, conservation, macroevolution, bio-/geography, or biological informatics, combined with experience in spatial biodiversity analysis and inference. The preferred candidate will have a deep understanding of this species group, a passion for advancing its spatial knowledge base, a strong interest in the model-based integration of large, disparate biodiversity data, a dedication toward conscientious work in a team, attention to detail, and strong communication skills. Particularly welcome is an ability to traverse ecological, evolutionary, and conservation perspectives and to address processes at different spatial and temporal scales. We expect strong analysis and scientific writing skills. Experience in several scripting languages, database management, taxonomic name management, remote sensing, and/or biodiversity informatics are highly welcome.

The position offers broad thematic flexibility, and focal research questions may be macroecological, conservation-focused, biogeographical, macroevolutionary, or comparative. We ask candidates to briefly describe their preferred thematic interest in the cover letter.

We strongly encourage applications from women and minorities. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are core values in our group, and we believe that a diverse team will enable a broader perspective and enhance creativity.

The Yale [BGC Center](#) connects biodiversity scientists from across campus and hosts a range of speaker and workshop events. It supports research and training around the use of new technologies and data flows for model-based inference and prediction of biodiversity distributions and changes at large spatial and taxonomic scales. Flagship Center projects include [Map of Life](#) and activities supporting the [Half-Earth Map](#) and the development of the GEO BON [Species Population Essential Biodiversity Variables](#). Other initiatives associated with the Center include the integration of macroevolutionary and biogeographic inference (e.g., [VertLife](#), [ButterflyNet](#)), NASA-supported remote sensing-informed layers and tools for biodiversity modelling ([EarthEnv](#)), the [Max Planck-Yale Center](#) on Biodiversity Movement and Global Change, and the [Wildlife Insights](#) initiative for camera trapping data.

Yale University offers researchers and staff competitive salaries and a generous package of [benefits](#). [Yale](#) has a thriving and growing community of young scholars in ecology, evolution and global change science in the [EEB Department](#), the [Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies](#), the [Peabody Museum](#), and the [Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies](#). New Haven is renowned for its classic Ivy League setting, 75 miles northeast of New York City. To apply please send, in one pdf, a short motivation (i.e. cover) letter, CV and names and contact information for three referees to anna.schuerkmann@yale.edu, subject "BGC Postdoc - Butterflies". Review of applications will begin on 9 December 2019 and continue until the position is filled.