Postdoctoral Research Associate (3-year)
Focus: Ecosystem modeling of primary succession on experimental hillslopes
Institution: Biosphere 2, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ with duty station at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA
Start Date: As soon as possible

Biosphere 2 at the University of Arizona and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, CA are in search of a creative post-doctoral scientist with experience in mechanistic modeling of ecosystem processes (encompassing hydrology, geochemistry, water and carbon cycling, and vegetation dynamics). The candidate will use an established model (ecosys) to analyze microbial and vegetation dynamics in the experimental hillslopes of the Landscape Evolution Observatory (LEO) at Biosphere 2. The science goals of this project are to simulate how plants colonize bare hillslopes, with interacting feedbacks among microbial communities, hydrology, and geochemical weathering, and to discover how these processes scale to the ecosystem.

This position advances the mission of the Biosphere 2 Landscape Evolution Observatory (LEO) research system to improve scientific understanding of how landscapes evolve over time as an integrated ecosystem.

This is a year-to-year appointment, for up to 3 years, contingent upon funding and performance. The position will be housed at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and will work closely with researchers at the U. Arizona and Biosphere 2.


Minimum Qualifications

Candidates must have received a PhD within the past five years (60 months) or within the next few months from an accredited college or university. Requirements include: prior experience with numerical modeling methods, and in the science of land surface processes.

Preferred Qualifications

- Strong mathematical and numerical modeling skills.
- Strong written and oral communication skills with significant motivation to publish in the peer reviewed literature.
- Strong interest in team-based interdisciplinary science, with the willingness and ability to work independently when required.
- Competitive salary and benefits are provided; the University of Arizona is an equal-opportunity employer.

Direct questions about the project to:
Dr. William J. Riley (wjriley@lbl.gov) at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory or Dr. Scott Saleska (saleska@email.arizona.edu) (Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology and Biosphere 2) at the University of Arizona.