

## **Postdoc in conservation and behavioral ecology.**

**[Bonefish and Tarpon Trust](#)** (BTT) seek a postdoctoral researcher.

**Duration:** 3 years

**Application deadline:** Screening of applicants will occur as they arrive and will continue until a suitable candidate is found

**Hiring notification:** Upon review of application

**Start date:** January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Expected relocation to Florida:** February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Location:** Marathon, Florida Keys (U.S.)

**Annual Salary:** \$64,000

The Bonefish Tarpon Trust invites applications for a Post-Doctoral Fellow to research drivers and consequences of increasing interactions between sharks and recreational fishers in the Florida Keys ecosystem. Commercial and recreational fishers are increasingly concerned with the loss of fishery species to shark depredation and post release predation. Local angler knowledge studies that quantify these interactions suggest that this process may be creating, or is on pace to create, unsustainable fisheries. However, data remains limited, which hinders the development and implementation of management actions aimed at reducing angler-shark interactions.

The specific aim of this project is to co-design and execute solutions-based research with for-hire fishers and partner resource managers. The scope of work is open-ended, but potential themes of research include: anthropogenic cues that increase depredation risk, the role of individual variation in shark behavior, evaluating interactions among gear type, space and time, influences of fishing effort, shark population size, habitat loss, and prey biomass, and application of behavioral and predator-prey theory.

The primary responsibilities of this postdoctoral fellow will be to work with partnering stakeholder groups to generate and execute a research plan using an established coproduction model. Applicants from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds will be considered, including but not limited to applied behavioral ecology, foraging ecology, spatial ecology, fisheries science, population ecology, translational science, shark conservation and management, wildlife science and social science.

**Requirements:** A Ph.D. in a related field is required. Applicants must have a demonstrated record of publication in peer-reviewed journals and of advanced quantitative skills using R. Given the importance of being part of the community to

successful coproduction, particularly in a small island archipelago, the hired post-doc will be required to live in the Florida Keys.

**Preferred qualifications:**

The ideal candidate has one or more of the following:

- A proven record of publications, leadership, and quantitative expertise.
- Experience with knowledge co-production and partnerships with stakeholders (such as anglers, for hire fishers, resource managers, endusers etc.).
- Strong communications skills.

**How To Apply:** Please email Dr. Ross Boucek ([ross@bonefishtarpontrust.org](mailto:ross@bonefishtarpontrust.org)) with the subject line '**Postdoc 2023 + your name.**' In your email, please include (as a single PDF):

- Cover letter describing experience, fit & expertise relevant to position & career goals
- CV with list of references
- Examples of products (peer-reviewed publications, popular & outreach materials)

**BTT** is a science-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, whose mission is to conserve and restore bonefish, tarpon and permit fisheries and their habitats. Through research, stewardship, education and advocacy, BTT works to protect and enhance healthy, functioning flats fisheries and habitats throughout Florida and the Caribbean, and executes its mission by partnering with [universities and institutions.](#)