

# Research Associate Specialist (Coastal Wetland Restoration) LSU AgCenter

Direct Link: https://www.AcademicKeys.com/r?job=257992

Downloaded On: Jul. 30, 2025 3:27pm Posted Jun. 6, 2025, set to expire Nov. 9, 2025

Job Title Research Associate Specialist (Coastal Wetland

Restoration)

**Department** East Baton Rouge Parish

**Institution** LSU AgCenter

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Date Posted Jun. 6, 2025

**Application Deadline** Jun. 20, 2025

Position Start Date Available immediately

Job Categories Research Scientist/Associate

Academic Field(s) Agricultural - General

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**Job Description** 

#### POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

This is a grant-funded, non-tenure track position. Funding must be available for any continuation of appointment.

**Work Location:** Department of Entomology, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**Position Description:**We are seeking a passionate Coastal Wetland Restoration Specialist to join our laboratory. This position will use the latest findings on *Phragmites* population genetics and environmental stressors in the Mississippi River Delta (MRD) to develop restoration plans. Over the last four years, we have a collected *Phragmites* populations across the MRD which harbors the largest



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diversity of populations in United States. The specialist will be responsible for developing and implementing restoration trials at selected locations of the MRD. Our latest research suggests that restoration efforts must take into consideration chronic inundation stress, insect herbivory, and salinity intrusion. Responsibilities include establishing restoration plots, using different monitoring techniques for assessing vegetation health (satellites, drones, on-site measurements). The ideal candidate will have a strong background in coastal ecology, hydrology, and plant science, with a passion for preserving and restoring critical wetland habitats. Field trips will include a full crew for assistance with restoration campaigns and data collection. The successful candidate will work closely with cooperators from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, state agencies working with coastal protection, and scientists from universities and the United States Department of Agriculture-APHIS.

Opportunities for career development related to this position will include:

- Skills: Hands on experience with drone mapping of plant biomass in wetlands, designing
  restoration trials, data collection and interpretation. Use of remote sensing and satellites to
  design suitable areas for restoration. Work on critical wetlands habitats.
- Networking: Direct interaction with a multidisciplinary team studying *Phragmites* die-back. Presenting research at local and national meetings.
- Mentorship: Direct interaction with undergraduate and graduate students, and research associates.
- Project management: Preparation of reports, and allocation of budgets and research effort.
- Outreach and Extension: Contact with volunteers and local agencies working on coastal restoration.

For more information about the *Phragmites* die-back project please visit www.lsuagcenter.com/roseaucane; and Diaz Lab, www.rodrigodiazlab.com.

**Qualification Requirements:** B.S. or Masters in wetland ecology, coastal restoration, freshwater ecology. Experience driving boats is preferred.

LSU and the AgCenter are dedicated to fostering an environment where our employees feel appreciated for their skills and individual qualifications. If a candidate does not meet the minimum qualifications listed but has other qualifications or substantial experience related to the key responsibilities, we encourage them to apply (per La. RS 42:36).

**Salary and Benefits:** Salary will be commensurate with education and experience. The LSU AgCenter has an attractive benefits package with a wide variety of benefit options. Benefits offered include retirement, multiple medical insurance options, supplemental insurances (dental, life, long-term



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disability, accident, vision, long-term care, etc.), Tax Saver Flexible Benefits Plan (saves tax dollars on some child care and medical expenses), university holidays (14 per year, typically includes a week off at Christmas), generous annual (vacation) and sick leave benefits, Employee Assistance Program, and possible educational leave and tuition exemption for coursework at campuses of the LSU System. Specific benefits depend on job category, percent effort and length of employment.

Date Available: Upon completion of selection process.

Application Deadline: June 20, 2025 or until a suitable candidate is identified.

**Application Procedure:** Apply online at <a href="https://lsu.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com">https://lsu.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com</a> (or through Workday for internal applicants) by attaching cover letter with resume, official university transcripts, curriculum vitae and contact information for three references. (Paper, faxed or e-mailed application materials will not be accepted.) In lieu of attaching the letters of reference, they may be sent directly to:

Dr. Rodrigo Diaz

Louisiana State University

Department of Entomology

404 Life Sciences Building

Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Phone: (225) 578-1835

Email: rdiaz@agcenter.lsu.edu

Website: www.lsuagcenter.com

The LSU Agricultural Center is a statewide campus of the LSU System and provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Contact Information** 



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### Contact

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