

# Early Career Training Program



**NECASC**  
Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center

Program Focus: NE CASC fellows develop skills in engagement, communication, and collaboration to help inform climate change adaptation for natural and cultural resources management.

## Components of the NE CASC Early Career Training Program

**14**  
Current  
Research  
Fellows

**170**  
ongoing or  
completed  
research  
projects

**100+**  
Fellows  
since 2013

### Stakeholder engagement

Developing relationships with decision makers, land managers, state, federal, Tribal agencies, and NGOs to produce knowledge that will inform climate adaptation and science-based decision making.

### Climate Communication

Practicing spoken and written science communication that is accessible and effective.

### Ethical Collaboration

Building a foundation of respect and understanding for Indigenous knowledge and science for a more complete vision of challenges and solutions, education on accurate Indigenous history and context, and committing to a lifelong process of learning and decolonization.

### Career Preparedness

Publishing, writing grants, establishing work/life balance, emphasizing inclusive practices, networking and job searching.

### Federal and state employees

State Departments of Natural Resources, USGS, NOAA, EPA, US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife

### Practitioner community

Engineering, consulting, and non-profit environmental work

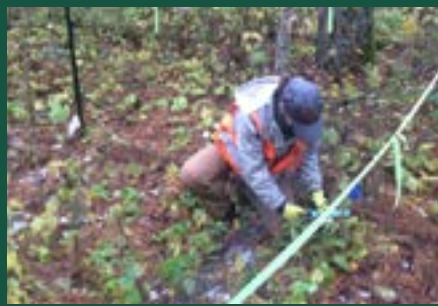
### Academic careers

Full and assistant professors, research scientists, postdoc fellows, and graduate students at domestic and international Universities

**UMASS**  
**AMHERST**

**USGS**  
science for a changing world

*This work is supported by the Department of Interior Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center, which is managed by the National Climate Adaptation Science Center.*



Clockwise from left: NE CASC fellows at the annual intensive; Fellow Jamie Mosel, University of Minnesota, conducting fieldwork; Fellow Alexander Bryan presenting to stakeholders

### NE CASC Fellows in their own words



**Nigel Golden, Graduate Fellow**  
“Working with NE CASC has helped me to create ecological knowledge, but also become intimately acquainted with the importance of engaging with local conservation practitioners in ways that develop capacity, build networks and implement actions that address climate change.”

**Meghna Marjadi, Graduate Fellow**



“I study anadromous fish to inform our understanding of how climate change will affect marine and freshwater ecosystems and their ability to support global food security and fisheries economies--especially for the most vulnerable global citizens. *As a DEIJ fellow with the NE CASC, I worked with leadership to develop programs to foster an inclusive environment and engage in DEIJ issues through intentional visioning and understanding.*”



**Jessica Wikle, Graduate Fellow**  
“As a NE CASC Fellow, I have learned a lot by connecting with other graduate researchers at different institutions and hearing about their journeys and the successes and challenges of their research. NE CASC has also provided me with numerous opportunities to build my science communication skillset, and deepen my understanding of co-produced science, both of which feel increasingly important as I move forward in my career.”

### Why NE CASC Fellows?

Core to the mission of NE CASC is the training of early career scientists to deliver science that helps wildlife, ecosystems, and people adapt to a changing climate. Our challenge is to identify and build relationships with stakeholder partners to collaboratively design research that will meet their climate adaptation needs. To meet this challenge, the NE CASC provides support in communication, engagement, and collaboration to a revolving cohort of students and postdoctoral researchers.

Fellows join the program through:

- 1. Selection by a NE CASC Consortium PI, USGS staff, or Tribal Liaison
- 2. Special opportunities such as NE CASC DEI Assistantship opportunity

### Program Format:

NE CASC fellows engage with the training via three mediums.

**Biweekly seminars** - fellows meet virtually during the academic year to discuss and practice skills related to co-production and stakeholder engagement.

**Annual Intensive** - once a year, fellows participate in a three day on-site intensive to build collaborations, interact with practitioners, and deepen their knowledge and skill set around co-producing science with stakeholders.

**Small Groups** - formal small group initiatives and informal scientific collaboration provide a more tailored means to engage in scholarship or service related to climate science co-production.

### Learn more at: [necasc.umass.edu](http://necasc.umass.edu)

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