

**INTERDISCIPLINARY POST-DOCTORAL SCIENTIST POSITION
(IN ECOSYSTEM DATABASE DEVELOPMENT & HUMAN DIMENSIONS)
The Ohio State University – Aquatic Ecology Laboratory**

Description: Dr. Stuart Ludsin (<https://u.osu.edu/ludsinlab/>) is seeking a post-doctoral scientist to help on a Great Lakes Fishery Commission project designed to develop a novel data-sharing platform to advance research and scientific endeavors in support of ecosystem-based fisheries management in the Great Lakes Basin. The post-doc will be expected to conduct structured or semi-structured interviews, create and analyze data from surveys, and organize workshops involving fishery managers, academic and agency researchers, and fishing groups. The post-doc would also work with an interdisciplinary team of scientists and computer/data engineers to develop a prototype of this data-sharing platform, which would allow end-users (e.g., academic and agency researchers, fishery managers) to simultaneously query existing, independent Great Lakes databases and download their needed data in the proper spatial and temporal resolution through a user-friendly online interface (see next page for an overview). Beyond these activities, the post-doc will be expected to write and submit manuscripts for publication to peer-reviewed journals, help generate scientific proposals, give presentations in management and scientific settings, and help generate annual progress reports to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, which is this project's sponsor.

Funding exists for at least one year, with the possibility of extension for additional years. The ideal start time is late fall/winter 2026-2027.

Qualifications: Required qualifications include: (1) a PhD in social science, data science, computer science, information systems, environmental science, ecology, or related field; (2) demonstrated ability to conduct independent human dimensions research, as evidenced by peer-reviewed publications; and (3) strong written and oral communication skills, including the ability and desire to interact with Great Lakes stakeholders (e.g., managers, fishing groups) and researchers. While knowledge of database/data-sharing platform development and associated programming could prove beneficial, it is not required.

Salary: \$62,232 - \$70,000 annually, depending on experience, plus a comprehensive benefits package.

Location: Successful candidates would join a dynamic, interactive group of faculty, post-docs, and students at the Aquatic Ecology Laboratory (AEL; <http://ael.osu.edu/>) in the Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology (<http://eeob.osu.edu/>) on The Ohio State University's main (Columbus) campus. Computing support and office space would be available in the AEL. Working on location in Columbus is preferred.

How to apply: Submit to apps.ael@gmail.com in a single .pdf file: **1)** a cover letter highlighting your research background and interests; **2)** a full CV; and **3)** names and contact information of three references. **Please include "Data-sharing Platform Post-doc" and your last name in the subject line.**

Application review will begin immediately and continue until a suitable candidate is found. Questions about the position can be addressed to Stuart Ludsin (ludsin.1@osu.edu).

The Ohio State University is an equal opportunity employer, including veterans and disability.



Janus: Data-Sharing Tool to Enhance Research, Management & Ecosystem Service Sustainability in the Great Lakes

What is Janus?

- *Janus* (after the deity for past & present) is a **data-sharing platform** being developed to facilitate the sharing of, access to, and usability of existing databases within the Great Lakes Basin, with the goal of enhancing research and management in an **ecosystem context**.
- It will be **coproduced** with input from management agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), researchers, and rightsholders from across the Basin.

Why Is Janus Needed?

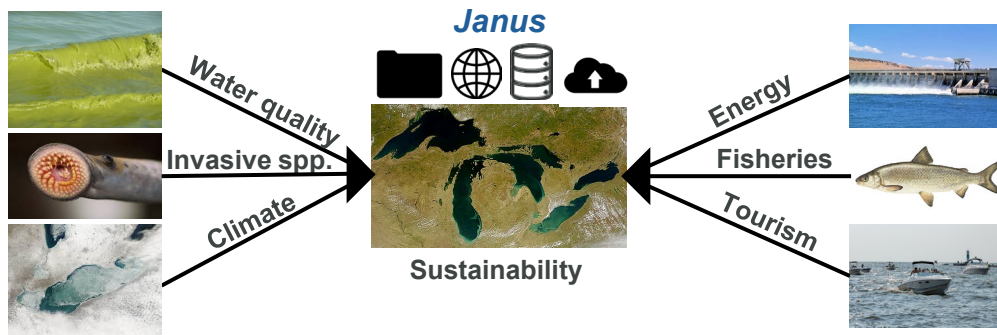
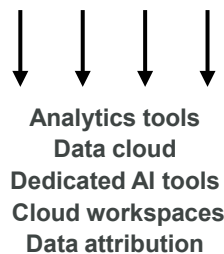
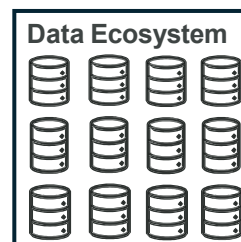
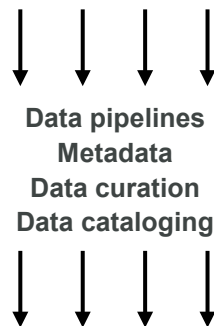
- The call for better **data access** within the Great Lakes has existed for > 40 years.
- Data critical to characterizing the Great Lakes ecosystems are scattered, often difficult to access, and uncurated when accessible, making it difficult to do research that can benefit management at the ecosystem level.
- The need for accessible data is greater than ever given the many interdisciplinary management problems that exist due to human-driven ecosystem change.
- *Janus* offers an **integrative approach** to organize, catalog, share, and curate data to support research and management, which in turn can help the push for ecosystem-based approaches to management in the Basin.

How Does Ecosystem Science Benefit the Great Lakes?

- Interactions and synergies caused by nutrient pollution, invasive species, habitat modification, and climate change are causing unanticipated, irregular, and novel environmental conditions in the Great Lakes that make traditional (e.g., single-sector, single-species) management approaches difficult and even incompatible.
- Broader (ecosystem-based) science approaches consider different management sectors, like water quality, fisheries, climate, energy, and economics, using interdisciplinary data to help identify management actions.
- Consideration of the ecosystem in research can benefit management by helping anticipate, avoid, and properly react to environmental change so that valued ecosystem services (e.g., clean water, food, recreation, tourism) can be restored, maintained, and sustained for future generations.
- Unfortunately, a lack of data accessibility and usability in the Basin has limited our capacity to conduct research and manage resources in an ecosystem context.

How are we approaching the development of Janus?

- We are **learning** how successful data-sharing tools across varied disciplines have been planned, designed, implemented, managed, maintained, and used.
- We will **collaborate** with management agencies, NGOs, researchers, and rightsholders to identify data needs and design features for *Janus*' success.
- We will **develop** an implementation strategy to maximize widespread adoption.
- We will **ensure** *Janus*' use, value, and longevity via routine assessment.



Project Janus Organizers:

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