Make the world a better place.
Unleash your passion for social and environmental change. Ignite your interest in data science and analytics. The National Data Science Bowl is your chance to take on a purpose that is bigger than any one of us.
At stake, the very health of our oceans.

Up for grabs? $175,000
$100,000 1st prize
$45,000 2nd prize
$15,000 3rd prize
$15,000 for top US university team

December 15, 2014 – March 16, 2015

Competition
Did you know, oceans are responsible for over half the world’s oxygen? Register now and gain access to data sets to help address an epic challenge. We want to you to observe the right patterns, ask the right questions and, in turn, make our complex world a little easier to understand and a better place to live.

Take a deep dive and see how tiny plants and animals’ fuel the world. Like the smallest data point can be key to redefining an industry, plankton are key to Earth’s massively intricate ecosystem. A large, thriving plankton population is crucial for marine and terrestrial food chains. A drop in their population can be a predictor of devastating effects on our world.

If marine biologists had methods for rapidly assessing plankton population distributions and numbers, they could create a way to access ocean health at a scale and speed that has never been possible. With sophisticated image capture methods, we have the data, but now are faced with volumes of information that would take years to manually analyze.

That’s where the competition begins.

Your Mission:
• Find meaning among seeming chaos—analyze a huge trove of high resolution images
• Create an algorithm to automatically read images and classify plankton species
• Enable simpler, faster population assessment

These seemingly small steps will have huge impact. The algorithms created will comprise a $1 million in-kind donation to the Hatfield Marine Science Center, enabling marine biologists around the globe to better understand the world’s oceans.

Eligibility
• The competition is open to individuals and teams
• Participants must be at least 18 years old with a:
  – Background in data science and analytics
  – Personal interest in making an impact in both professional and cultural environments through data science

Intimidated by the challenge? Don’t be! The Bowl is about learning, not just competing. You’ll be able to:
• Work at your own pace, on your own or with others
• Learn from master-level data scientists blogging weekly tips and insights
• Tap into great tutorials and learning opportunities—even a new career
• Be part of a global movement to use data science for social good

Sponsors
The momentum behind the National Data Science Bowl comes from co-sponsors Booz Allen Hamilton and Kaggle, in partnership with Oregon State University’s Hatfield Marine Science Center. We are energized and informed by a strong and diverse community of corporations, academia, non-profits and others who share a common bond: to challenge ourselves, our colleagues, and data scientists everywhere to affect change on a global scale.

Free Registration
Visit DataScienceBowl.com for all the details.