Make the world a better place. Be part of a global movement to use data science for social good. Join novice and veteran data scientists as they unleash their passion and skill on an epic challenge.

The 2014/2015 National Data Science Bowl offers individuals and teams the opportunity to affect change on a global scale. It’s the ideal platform for data scientists to unleash their fervent curiosity, stretch their skills, and for corporations, academia, non-profits and others, to support their passion for solving problems.

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 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.

We’re asking participants to:
• Find meaning among seeming chaos—analyze nearly 100,000 high resolution images of microscopic plankton taken by the Hatfield Marine Science Center
• Create an algorithm to automatically read images and classify plankton species for simpler, faster population assessment

This seemingly small step will have a truly massive 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 enhance our understanding of 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

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.