

## Great Lakes Fishery Commission - Fishery Biology Internship

**Position:** Fishery Biology Intern

**Job Description:** The Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC) is leading the bi-directional selective fish passage (FishPass) project at the Boardman (Ottaway) River's Union Street Dam in downtown Traverse City, MI to provide up- and down-stream passage of desirable fishes while simultaneously blocking and/or removing undesirable fishes. To achieve FishPass objectives, the FishPass Advisory Board has initiated an Assessment Plan to coordinate monitoring and assessment techniques. Data on fish community structure and dynamics, fish movement/passage, contaminant loading, sea lamprey populations, habitat availability and use, water quality, and stream morphology will be collected at representative reaches of the Boardman River. This assessment design will allow managers to make annual adjustments to adapt FishPass operations in terms of the number of individuals and species passed to effectively enhance fishery production in the Boardman River. As part of this work, the GLFC will be installing and maintaining two fish traps at the Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources' Boardman weir in the spring (March-May) of 2022. These traps will be used with the intention of capturing, marking, and recapturing large numbers of both longnose and white suckers during their annual spring migration. These methods will allow FishPass researchers to estimate the migratory run size of each species. The GLFC is looking to hire up to 4 interns to assist staff in maintaining the trapping apparatus and processing fish. The interns shall work under guidelines and policies set by the GLFC and direction from the Principal Engineer/Scientist (Dr. Daniel Zielinski) and Assessment Biologist (Reid Swanson). This job may include (but will not be limited to) the following tasks:

- A. Managing fish traps
  - a. Assist in removing fish from traps and marking with external tags
  - b. Assist in morphometric data acquisition such as total length measurements and mass.
  - c. Assist with safe transport and release of fish
  - d. Assist in fish abundance surveys and telemetry tag surgeries
  - e. Assist in keeping the weir and traps clear of debris
- B. Recording data
  - a. Assist in accurate recording of biological data
- C. Managing data
  - a. Assist with data entry and clean-up
  - b. Compile data into tables and graphs using MS Excel software
  - c. Summarize data

**Start Date:** Spring 2022

**Application Deadline:** 01/31/2022

**Rate:** \$13.78 per hour (GS-3, step 1).

**Commitment:** Work hours will vary based on trap catch. Interns should expect to work 3-4 days/week (6-20 hrs./week) including evenings and weekends. Scheduling will be flexible to the extent possible to account for student schedules.

### Qualifications – Required

1. Minimum age: 18 years
2. Degree: High school diploma
3. Must have a valid driver's license
4. Must demonstrate ability to:
  - a. Work as part of a team with professional staff
  - b. Effective written and verbal communication
  - c. Basic computer competency skills
  - d. Work well with members of public
  - e. Work in occasionally inclement conditions (rain, cold)

### Qualifications – Preferred

1. Enrolled in the Northwestern Michigan College – Freshwater Studies Program
2. Lift heavy equipment ( $\leq 60$  lbs.) as needed in the field
3. Knowledge and Experience
  - a. Computer skills – Excel spreadsheets and word processing.
  - b. Science – biology, fisheries, and experience working on the water via boats or wading.
  - c. Miscellanies – Organizational note taking and general construction experience

If interested, please email or send a letter of inquiry and resume to:

Great Lakes Fishery Commission  
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