



Chesapeake StREAM Internship Sustainable Fisheries

Project Description

The NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (NCBO) and Chesapeake Research Consortium (CRC) seek a summer intern for late May through mid-August 2021 (12 weeks) to assist with translating fisheries and habitat science for resource managers. The C-StREAM Sustainable Fisheries intern will work with the NCBO Fish and Ecosystem Science teams and the Chesapeake Bay Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team. The project goal for the Sustainable Fisheries intern is to develop a data portal for invasive blue catfish that will summarize biological, ecological, and commercial and recreational fishery data for use by managers, scientists, NGOs and the public. The intern will compile data, develop the data and GIS portal organization framework, conduct spatial analysis, and populate the portal. Other species and habitat data may be included in the portal development.

Opportunities

This internship will support the work of the [Chesapeake Bay Program's Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation](#) Team (Fish GIT), a team composed of state fisheries managers from around the Bay and chaired by the director of the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office. The Fish GIT brings scientists and fisheries managers together to coordinate and facilitate the management of blue crab and recovery of oysters, while promoting considerations of fish habitat and forage for key managed species like menhaden, striped bass and alosines. The GIT focuses on advancing ecosystem-based fisheries management by using science to make informed fishery management decisions that cross state boundaries. The Fish GIT through the [Invasive Catfish Workgroup is implementing a management strategy](#) to address invasive catfish spread and impacts. The Invasive Catfish Workgroup is responsible for coordinating the best available science and developing methods to evaluate the impacts of invasive catfish species on the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem. The role of the Invasive Catfish Workgroup (ICW) is to regularly report out on current knowledge of the issue and incorporate all available information on blue and flathead catfish to inform the management strategy for handling these invasive species across all jurisdictions. The internship will provide opportunities for networking with both the Fish GIT and ICW members and assist in meeting science objectives to synthesize and make information on invasive catfish more useful and available to managers and the public through the [Chesapeake Bay Open Data Portal](#).

Deliverables

- Assist in coordination of project plan and design with Fish GIT and ICW members.
- Compilation and organization of invasive catfish data (preferably by tributary).
- Complete spatial analysis that synthesizes biological, ecological and fishery data for invasive catfish.
- Populate the [Chesapeake Bay Open Data Portal](#) with final products. Add other species and habitat data as time allows.
- Presentation to ICW and Chesapeake Bay Program entities as needed.
- Presentation to NCBO staff at the conclusion of the internship summarizing the experiences gained and work conducted.
- Presentation at the C-StREAM end of summer student symposium.

Requirements

- Knowledge and experience organizing and analyzing GIS data, using ArcGIS portals, and developing story maps.
- Knowledge of R language and studio preferable.
- Knowledge of and/or comfort in using reference sources on flora and fauna of the Chesapeake Bay.
- Motivated self-starter with ability to work and reason independently.
- Must be a college-level student entering sophomore, junior, or senior year of undergraduate study. Students are also eligible to participate during the immediate summer following their graduation if they are pursuing graduate studies in the fall.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen and willing to undergo a security background check.

Work Location and Duration

Due to health concerns and NOAA policies guiding us during COVID-19 we have not yet determined if this position will be virtual or in-person. Currently, we are planning for both possibilities. If we are able to offer this position as an in-person opportunity it will be based out of the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office in Annapolis, Maryland.

The internship is scheduled to begin Monday, May 24, 2021 and end Friday, August 13, 2021. These are our preferred dates, but the dates can be adjusted to accommodate a student's school schedule if required. We plan on providing interns with access to a NOAA computer, email and phone services if this internship is offered in person. If the internship is virtual, interns will need to have access to a suitable internet, computer and communication resources.

Compensation

The intern will be reimbursed at the end of each month (June, July, and August), for a total of up to \$6,000 (\$500/week) for the equivalent of 12 weeks (480 hours) of full-time activities. Candidates should expect to follow a normal weekday work schedule (roughly 9-5, M-F) with occasional variations for possible field work or other activities. No benefits are provided. We offer assistance in arranging local housing if the position is an in-person opportunity if desired. A one-time housing and transportation allowance of \$1,000 is available to each intern to assist with living and transportation expenses. Funds are also available to compensate interns for occasional work-related travel and professional development activities.

Diversity and Inclusion

The Chesapeake Research Consortium and NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office are committed to supporting a diverse and inclusive science oriented workforce. Our internship program endeavors to recruit from a diverse, qualified group of potential applicants to secure a high-performing workforce drawn from all segments of American society. CRC and NOAA are strongly supportive of broadening the participation of historically black colleges and universities, Hispanic serving institutions, tribal colleges and universities, and institutions that work in underserved areas. We highly encourage applications from students at any of the above institutions as well as students that identify as black, Indigenous, person of color or 1st generation college student.

Application Instructions

Application instructions, required materials, and the C-StREAM application portal can be found on the C-StREAM website (<http://chesapeake.org/c-stream/>).

The deadline for applications is February 20, 2021.