



## Habitat/Fisheries Assessment Intern

### Chesapeake Research Consortium-NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office



#### **Project Description**

The Chesapeake Research Consortium and the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (NCBO) seek a summer intern for late May through mid- to late August 2014 (12 weeks) to assist with field work on living resources of the Chesapeake Bay. NCBO scientists conduct regular sampling of fish populations and their habitat in the Bay watershed to better understand the delicate balance and health of this vital ecosystem. This research has resulted in the accumulation of spatially referenced habitat characterizations that describe diverse flora and fauna of the Bay.

The intern will primarily support the Office's habitat assessment/fisheries priorities, including ecosystem services of oyster reefs. A significant amount of time will be spent sampling and documenting fish populations in Chesapeake Bay tributaries. The position entails a monitoring component including fisheries and invertebrate sampling on reef and shoreline habitats using several sampling techniques. Some data entry, literature review, and other administrative tasks will also be assigned as needed. The intern may also have the opportunity to assist NCBO staff in benthic mapping exercises, underwater grass sampling, and conducting Bay-focused outreach lessons for K-12 students.

#### **Opportunities**

This internship provides a unique opportunity to contribute to large-scale, long-term ecological research critical to understanding Chesapeake Bay living resources. The intern will gain valuable experience in field techniques for sampling a variety of fish and invertebrate species. These experiences will provide a strong background in conservation biology, ichthyology, ecology, hydrology, and chemistry. The position will also provide an opportunity to expand the intern's knowledge of Chesapeake flora and fauna and the technologies related to field research and ecosystem monitoring.

#### **Deliverables**

- Sample macrofauna populations and characterize aquatic habitats of the Chesapeake Bay
- Enter data from sampling efforts into the database
- Presentation to NCBO staff at the conclusion of the internship summarizing work conducted

#### **Requirements**

- Willingness to engage in physically demanding work, typically taking place outdoors on a boat
- Knowledge of and/or comfort in using reference sources on flora and fauna of the Chesapeake Bay
- Experience in Web-based research
- Experience in data management and analysis a plus
- 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

#### **Work Location and Duration**

This position will be stationed out of the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office in Annapolis, Maryland. The position will begin in mid-May and conclude in mid-August (12 weeks). Computer and phone services will be provided.

#### **Compensation**

The intern will be reimbursed at the end of each month, for a total of up to \$4,000 for the equivalent of 12 weeks of full-time activities (480 hours). Funds are available to compensate interns for occasionally required work-related travel. 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. A small housing stipend is available for those needing it, and we offer assistance in arranging local housing.

#### **Application Instructions**

Please email a short cover letter, résumé, and two references (phone numbers and e-mails) to Dave Jasinski: [djasinsk@gmail.com](mailto:djasinsk@gmail.com), by February 21, 2014. Please be sure to indicate which position you are applying for in your cover letter.