

PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION - JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
Resource Extraction Section, Division of Environmental Services
595 East Rolling Ridge Drive
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Telephone: 814-359-5236

Position: Fisheries Biologist Aide (FBA)

Date Posted: March 11th, 2024

Status: Short Term (Seasonal) – (18 week position)

The Division of Environmental Service's Resource Extraction Section in Bellefonte, PA announces the availability of a paid seasonal position for the summer of 2024 field season. This is an 18 week position, not to exceed 675 hours. The position is expected to begin on May 13, 2024, and end on September 13, 2024.

Position Description

The position involves assisting Resource Extraction Section Fisheries Biologists with field activities and office work pertaining to the management of the aquatic resources of the Commonwealth. Fieldwork sometimes involves long hours, travel to field survey locations using Commission vehicles, overnight travel (reimbursed by Commission), and at times working in inclement weather. The Commission will provide the necessary field survey and safety apparel (e.g., waders, personal flotation devices, electrofishing gloves, etc.).

Position Title	Fisheries Biologist Aide
Position Type:	Paid, Summer Position (2024 Field Season)
Position Duration:	May 13– September 13; (18 weeks)
Office Location:	PA Fish and Boat Commission Centre Region Office 595 East Rolling Ridge Drive Bellefonte, PA 16823
Starting Wage:	\$16.67/ hour
Hours Per Week:	37.5 hrs./week (no paid holidays); limited overtime may occur for fieldwork
Work Hours:	8 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday (for office work); variable hours for fieldwork

Responsibilities:

Primarily duties involve sampling fish, freshwater mussels, reptiles/amphibians and aquatic macroinvertebrates using a variety of active and passive sampling gears throughout Pennsylvania. This may include identifying undocumented wild trout populations in previously unsurveyed streams, completing Timber Rattlesnake Habitat Assessments, snorkeling to sample freshwater mussels, and assisting with kicknet sampling for aquatic macroinvertebrates. More specifically, the FBA will assist multiple Fisheries Biologists within the Section to complete water quality analyses, habitat assessments, fisheries data management and formatting, and routine equipment maintenance, among other assigned duties.

Qualifications:

Our office is seeking a responsible and dependable individual who meets the following qualifications:

- Coursework towards earning a degree in natural sciences, biology, fisheries, wildlife, environmental sciences, or ecology (or equivalent experience). Undergraduates, graduates, and graduate students are encouraged to apply.
- Well-developed computer skills (e.g., Microsoft Office software, ArcGIS).
- Ability to interpret and create maps using provided computer software packages.
- Proficient writing, editing, and organizational skills.
- Ability to perform manual labor including lifting objects up to 50 pounds repetitively throughout the workday.
- Perform general maintenance and repair of small engines, vehicles, boats, and other sampling equipment.
- Applicant should be comfortable in and around water, including the ability to swim.
- Sufficient physical stamina to conduct field investigations on the water, in rough terrain, under adverse weather conditions.
- Willingness to work as part of a collaborative research team.

- Valid driver's license
- Selected candidate will be required to obtain three background certifications prior to employment with PFBC: Child Abuse, Criminal History, and FBI/Fingerprint Certifications.

Working Conditions:

- Work will involve statewide travel. Overnight lodging and subsistence will be reimbursed.
- Flexibility in working schedule, including willingness to work evenings.

Application Instructions:

Applicants should submit a resume along with a cover letter describing their interest in fisheries management. Applicants should also provide the phone numbers and emails of three references. This information should be submitted to Jordan Allison by email at jorallison@pa.gov with a subject line "RES FBA Position".

Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Candidates will be interviewed and notified promptly after the interview. If you have any questions about this position, please contact Jordan Allison at 814-359-5236.

Applications must be submitted no later than April 5th, 2024.