

TITLE: Environmental Analyst – Stream Monitoring and Assessment

EMPLOYER: NEIWPC, Wannalancit Mills, 650 Suffolk Street, Suite 410, Lowell, MA 01854.

LOCATION: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-3507

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: NEIWPC is a regional commission that helps the states of the Northeast preserve and advance water quality. We engage and convene water quality professionals and other interested parties from New England and New York to collaborate on water, wastewater, and environmental science challenges across the regions, ecosystems, and areas of expertise. NEIWPC is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

JOB SUMMARY: The incumbent will focus on assisting in the water quality monitoring and assessment of source waters in New York State (NYS) streams and rivers in the Monitoring and Assessment Section (MAS) at NYSDEC, Division of Water (DOW), Bureau of Water Assessment and Management. The incumbent will assist in the coordination between the Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) and MAS to help ensure source water priority waterbodies are targeted for monitoring and assessment. This will include assisting in the monitoring and assessment of DWSP2 priority waterbodies, implemented through the DOW MAS Rotating Integrated Basin Studies (RIBS) program. The incumbent will also serve as a liaison to the DOW Bureau of Water Permits (BWP), regional representatives, and internal basin programs for the development of a watershed-based sampling program that supports permit development. This may include coordination of sampling efforts, development of appropriate QAQC documents, creation of potential data tools, as well as analysis and reporting of data.

This position will also support, in general, all elements of the work of MAS programs which includes but is not limited to biological monitoring of streams and rivers, harmful algal bloom (HAB) reporting and research, groundwater program data processing, collection of field observation and water chemistry data, laboratory sample processing, database development, database maintenance, data analysis, and reporting.

Duties will be performed in an office setting and in outdoor field conditions. Field work will be conducted outdoors under a variety of weather conditions, from boats and rough terrain, with a need to lift and carry up to 30 lbs. Position will require travel, especially during periods of the year when field work is conducted, and will require travel overnight and for extended hours; travel and field work may comprise up to 30% of time, annually.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The position will assist with the following:

- Contribute to water quality monitoring data collection, analysis, and reporting with a focus on water quality assessment of source water rivers and streams in NYS.
- Participate in the collection of water quality data/samples, field measurements, and observations from streams and rivers from across NYS, with an emphasis on biological sampling and analysis methods.
- With supervisory guidance, coordinate and liaison with BWP and others to support a watershed-based sampling program in support of permit updates. Leverage existing sampling programs where feasible, and provide program development framework

and guidance. Investigate opportunities to support permit development through analysis of the existing statewide dataset.

- Assist in water quality monitoring data processing and entry into various MAS data management platforms. Depending on experience, the position may potentially include assisting senior staff in the update and maintenance of various data processing components developed in the programming language, R.
- Help develop electronic field-based data collection procedures for MAS, including developing maps and map products using ArcGIS desktop and online platform.
- Assist in identification and enumeration of in-house macroinvertebrate citizen science program managed by MAS.
- Participate in all training necessary to conduct sampling, operate vessels, and use DOW databases.
- Provide support for Quality Assurance Project Plan and Standard Operating Procedure development for MAS programs.
- Provide background materials or draft or write articles for various NEIWPCC, or other, publications. Present work products and programs to stakeholders and the public.
- Other duties as assigned.

The satisfactory performance of the above duties and responsibilities requires the incumbent to have a thorough understanding of the DEC and NEIWPCC's programs, organization, and policies, to exercise initiative and resourcefulness in complicated situations, and to be able to work effectively with state and federal contacts at both staff and top management levels, and with varied professional backgrounds. The ability to organize workload, and perform tasks in an accurate, conclusive, and timely manner is required.

SUPERVISORY CONTROLS: Incumbent operates with some independence of action within their area of activity. This position is contained within the Division of Water (DOW), Bureau of Water Assessment Monitoring and Assessment Section within the NYSDEC. Job performance is evaluated by the NEIWPCC Project Manager and in consultation with Keleigh Reynolds, NYSDEC.

The incumbent will rely on their ability, expertise, and commitment to excellence. They will also build NEIWPCC's culture which focuses on honesty, ethical behavior, personal integrity, respect for others, transparency, hard work, and collaborative teamwork.

REQUIREMENTS:

- A valid driver's license and access to own transportation required.
- Attendance is mandatory in the Lowell office for a one-day orientation and at the annual All Staff Meeting (held the last Thursday and Friday in March each year).
- This is a full-time position. This position requires incumbent to be in the office or at the assigned work location Monday – Friday for the first six months of employment. After six months of employment, this position may be eligible for a partial telework schedule, subject to approval and determined by program and office needs. Telework schedules are authorized by the Executive Director.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: A bachelor's degree in environmental science, biology, environmental biology, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), or related field.

At least three years of full-time or equivalent part-time, technical, or professional experience in the above-mentioned fields, of which at least one year must have been in a professional capacity.

Substitutions

- I. An associate's degree with a major in a field referenced above or a related field may be substituted for a maximum of one year of the required experience.*
- II. A bachelor's degree with a major in a field referenced above or a related field may be substituted for a maximum of two years of the required experience.*
- III. A graduate degree with a major in a field referenced above or a related field may be substituted for required experience.*

* Education toward such a degree will be prorated on the basis of the proportion of the requirements actually completed.

Personal Characteristics

- Naturally prone to action with a focus toward continuous improvement and is committed to contributing to the overall success of NEIWPCCC.
- Ability to build collaborative relationships across NEIWPCCC and our partners.
- Approachable and diplomatic in all interactions.
- Able to manage change and articulate the “value case” for it.
- A team player who is inclusive and willing to help others.
- Dependable and capable of fostering trust.
- Accepts responsibility and is accountable for results.
- Ability to write concisely to express thoughts clearly and to develop ideas in logical sequence.
- Ability to exercise discretion in handling confidential information.
- Excellent organizational skills and the ability to prioritize key deliverables.

Special Knowledge and Skills

In general, experience collecting and working with water quality data, aquatic macroinvertebrates, data and statistical analysis, and reporting is preferred. More specifically:

- Experience with Geographic Information Systems (GIS), such as ArcGIS Online
- Experience with the statistical computing software (R)
- Proficiency in Microsoft Excel, Word, and Access
- Knowledge of stream ecology and water quality management, including field work and data analysis
- Clear communication and public speaking abilities
- Willingness to work long days and participate in overnight trips
- Experience with operation and trailering boats
- Experience with using dichotomous keys
- Experience with management of diverse workload and with multiple partners for establishment of water quality goals

SALARY: Salary dependent on experience and qualifications.

BENEFITS: Generous benefits package provided, which includes: vacation, personal and sick leave, paid holidays as determined by office location; health, dental, disability and life insurance; retirement plan.