



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

1050 N. Highland Street • Suite 200A-N • Arlington, VA 22201
703.842.0740 • 703.842.0741 (fax) • www.asafc.org

James J. Gilmore, Jr. (NY), Chair Patrick C. Keliher (ME), Vice-Chair Robert E. Beal, Executive Director

Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

FISHERIES SPECIALIST – ELECTRONIC DATA MANAGEMENT TECHNICIAN

VACANCY #: 0036

*Location: Old Lyme, CT
Closing Date: 04/16/2018*

*Salary: \$30/per hour
Duration of Employment: six months*

Duties: As a **Fisheries Specialist – Electronic Data Management Technician**, the incumbent will work in conjunction with Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) fisheries biologists to implement a new electronic data acquisition system for the Long Island Sound Trawl Survey (LISTS). The Technician will assist CT DEEP biologists with all aspects of LISTS field sampling aboard CT DEEP research vessel, and will be responsible for ensuring accurate data collection using the new onboard electronic data acquisition system. The Technician will also have non-fieldwork responsibilities related to data quality assurance/quality control, storage, and management, as well as processing of biological samples collected during fieldwork. The Technician will have primary responsibility for setting up the electronic data acquisition system at the beginning of each research cruise, ensuring proper function of the system during the cruise, and training other staff on the use of the system as necessary, therefore the preferred candidate will be able to demonstrate prior experience or proficiency with this type of work. Specific responsibilities of the incumbent will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Successfully complete training on LISTS safety protocols and survey procedures;
- In conjunction with CT DEEP fisheries biologists, set up the onboard electronic data collection/storage system using FEED software and a variety of peripheral devices (ruggedized tablets, laptops, electronic measuring boards, wireless routers, GPS/sonar);
- Troubleshoot the electronic data acquisition system as necessary while underway;
- Coordinate training of other staff members on use of the electronic data acquisition system as necessary;
- Develop new data processing protocols and modify existing survey equipment as needed to implement the electronic data acquisition system;
- Make recommendations for software development to incorporate key LISTS sampling protocols and procedures into the electronic data acquisition system.
- Readily recognize common fish and invertebrate species based on key characters; use field guides and keys to identify less common species;
- Handle, sort, count, measure, and weigh fish and invertebrates collected during survey operations;
- Collect, catalogue, and process biological samples collected during survey operations (primarily bony structures collected from fish for age & growth analysis);
- Perform fish dissection onboard the research vessel and in the lab;
- Complete paper survey forms as necessary and submit these forms to supervisor daily;

- Transfer data from the onboard electronic system to standardized LISTS databases, perform standard QA/QC and data management procedures.
- Serve as a primary point of contact for vendors of hardware and software components of the electronic data acquisition system;
- Other duties as assigned by supervisors.

Supervision Received: The Technician is an ASMFC employee but reports to CT DEEP supervisors on a daily basis. CT DEEP supervisors and the ASMFC Program Manager make joint decisions concerning hiring of the Technician. CT DEEP supervisors conduct performance evaluations, subject to review and approval by the ASMFC Program Manager.

Locations and Hours: During field sampling periods, the Technician will be expected to work onboard each day the research vessel is underway (up to five days per week). Field sampling occurs Monday-Friday, generally between the hours of 6:00 AM-6:00 PM. Field sampling occurs for approximately three consecutive weeks in May, June, September, and October. Overtime is available, if needed, during field sampling periods. During non-field-sampling periods, office hours are generally 8:30 AM-4:30 PM, Monday-Friday; however, ASMFC policy allows for flexible office hours, and CT DEEP supervisors may also modify non-field season work schedules at their discretion. The primary work location will be the CT DEEP Marine Headquarters in Old Lyme, CT. Field sampling will occur onboard the R/V John Dempsey operating in Long Island Sound.

Qualifications: Applicants must be eligible to work in the United States, have a valid driver's license, a B.S. in biological or environmental sciences with coursework in fisheries or a related field. Applicants must be comfortable working with computer databases, analytical software, and electronic devices. Applicants must also be capable of handling, measuring, and weighing live fish, handling fishery-independent survey gear, and working outside for extended periods of time in variable weather conditions onboard a vessel with 3-8 crew members. Applicants must have legible handwriting and meticulous attention to detail, and be able to complete, organize, safely store, and transport paper and electronic data records in a timely fashion. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, as well as the ability to work independently, organize work, and solve problems following prescribed procedures should all be demonstrated.

Preferred qualifications: The preferred candidate will have a working knowledge of FEED (Fisheries Environment for Electronic Data) software as well as fishery-independent trawl survey methodology and sampling procedures. Direct working experience with maintaining fisheries-independent survey gear, onboard electronics, computers, and related field sampling equipment is desired. Knowledge of and familiarity with finfish, invertebrate, and marine plant species of Long Island Sound is desired. Familiarity with computer networking, operating systems, and troubleshooting of electronic devices is desired. Preferred candidates will have previous experience conducting comparable fisheries

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) is comprised of the 15 Atlantic coast states under the terms of an interstate compact approved in 1942. The purpose of the Commission, as set forth by Article I of its Compact, is: To promote the better utilization of the fisheries, marine, shell and anadromous, of the Atlantic seaboard by the promotion and protection of such fisheries. As an instrumentality of the 15 Atlantic coastal states, the Commission is employed to coordinate conservation and management for nearshore migratory fishery resources.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

fieldwork, and a demonstrated ability to conduct rigorous fieldwork in challenging weather conditions.

Training: The Technician will be required to take part in onboard safety drills and training and may attend in-person paid training. Trainees must successfully complete training to continue employment on the project.

Application Process: Please email a resume and cover letter referencing the vacancy number #0036 to Laura Leach, Director of Finance and Administration, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, 1050 N. Highland Street; Suite 200 A-N, Arlington, VA 22201 (asmfc-jobs@asmfc.org). The vacancy number must be identified in the subject line.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) is comprised of the 15 Atlantic coast states under the terms of an interstate compact approved in 1942. The purpose of the Commission, as set forth by Article I of its Compact, is: To promote the better utilization of the fisheries, marine, shell and anadromous, of the Atlantic seaboard by the promotion and protection of such fisheries. As an instrumentality of the 15 Atlantic coastal states, the Commission is employed to coordinate conservation and management for nearshore migratory fishery resources.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER