Position Description: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will be filling up to 4 internship positions to assist with mussel surveys, monitoring, host identification, and propagation of endangered freshwater mussels. The position will be based in Lake City, Minnesota, but will travel statewide. Start date is somewhat flexible, but is expected to begin by May 22, and continue to at least August 30 (POSSIBLY extending through May 21, 2018).

Duties include (but are not limited to):
- Diving in large rivers such as the Mississippi and St. Croix
- Sampling mussels in streams, rivers, and lakes while snorkeling or diving
- Excavating and sorting quadrat samples
- Endangered mussel propagation and reintroduction
- Mussel host identification in the laboratory
- Meticulous data recording and sample tracking
- Maintain and organize field and SCUBA equipment
- Operate computer notebook, light microscope, and GPS receiver
- Collect and maintain live native fishes in aquaria and large holding tanks
- General laboratory maintenance and cleaning
- Operate state vehicle and motor boat; tow and launch boat

Required Qualifications: Open water SCUBA certification and Class D Driver’s License or equivalent are required. Interns must be enrolled in a degree seeking biology (or related) program.


Working Conditions: The position is based out of Lake City, 1hr 15min southeast of St. Paul. Workweek is usually M-Th or M-F and some weekends, but could extend for up to an 8-day stretch on occasion. Should be comfortable in the water, be prepared to work long hours (sometimes in uncomfortably cool water temperatures) in a variety of field and weather conditions. Must work well with others for long periods, requires travel throughout Minnesota, and frequently involves staying in motels. Workers are responsible for their own housing and living expenses. However, lodging costs for overnight stays while traveling for work will be paid by the DNR, and meal expenses during those periods will be reimbursed. SCUBA equipment and wetsuits will be supplied by the DNR.

To apply, visit https://www.mn.gov/mmb/careers/
Wage: $15.00/hour (40 hours/week)
Closing Date: 1 March 2017
Questions? Contact Bernard.Sietman@state.mn.us