Position Description – Voyageurs National Park Aquatic Ecology and Fisheries Volunteer Internship

The primary duty of this intern will be to assist biologists on fisheries and water quality data collection trips on the lakes of Voyageurs National Park and to perform the associated laboratory analyses. The intern will participate in a population assessment project focused on a native muskellunge population in Shoepack Lake. The intern should be prepared to collect data from a boat using various instruments and to collect water using assorted sampling equipment. Duties will also include sampling zooplankton from an anchored boat using a plankton net. The intern will need to be able to hike several miles over uneven terrain while carrying a pack and to be able to paddle a canoe.

The intern will also take part in routine laboratory work consisting of filtering water samples and performing simple titrations. The intern may have the opportunity to participate on field trips involving a wide variety of research. Work days are occasionally as long at 10-12 hours and do involve inclement weather at times.

This is an unpaid internship. Housing costs (in seasonal government housing) will be covered by Voyageurs National Park, and mileage for driving between seasonal government housing and Voyageurs National Park Headquarters during the internship will be reimbursed.

Qualifications

Required – Must possess valid driver’s license; major in biology or related field; must have canoeing or boating experience; must be able to work in adverse conditions on large bodies of water; must be able to hike and portage materials to smaller lakes.

Preferred – Experience handling fish; sampling water quality; using computers for data management, spreadsheet, and word processing; conducting field research including navigation.

Dates

The internship will last for approximately twelve weeks (from sometime in May or early June – sometime in August, although extension through September may be possible, if desired).

Contact information:

If you are interested in this opportunity, please send a resume and a list of references to Ryan Maki at ryan_maki@nps.gov. Feel free to send questions to Ryan at that email address as well.

Deadline:

Please submit resume and list of references by 12:00 PM on Friday, April 12.