

DENVER, CO - EPA Region 8 Office of Water Protection Intern (CLOSING DATE: 04/09/2018)

Position Title: Streams Research Assistant

Background: Clean Water Act Section 404 authorizes the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the U.S. Oftentimes, an applicant is required to offset any losses to these resources through mitigation. The Region 8 Water Program is working in partnership with other state and federal agencies in Colorado and Wyoming to develop a tool to improve mitigation efforts in streams and to better quantify changes in functional condition of streams following restoration efforts or permitted impacts. This Stream Quantification Tool calculates changes in functional condition based on a suite of quantitative metrics derived from GIS and field data. The tool computes index values for each metric based on regional reference data, peer-reviewed literature, and in some cases best professional judgement where data are sparse. The volunteer intern would work with the tool development team on literature reviews, data analysis, and case-study evaluations to improve the applicability of the tool and test its performance across different field sites, ecoregions and stream types.

Position Description: The volunteer will support the tool development team through research on stream processes and restoration, compiling existing data, and testing of the excel tool. The volunteer intern may also have the opportunity to assist in field testing the tool.

Specific duties may include, but are not limited, to the following:

- Compiling and synthesizing literature related to stream processes and restoration
- Compiling and evaluating hydrologic, geomorphologic and ecological datasets
- Testing tool performance using data from existing project sites
- Field data collection
- GIS data analysis
- Other As Needed

Desired Skills:

- Excellent written and verbal communication
- Basic Excel
- Basic Word
- Ability to work independently
- Works well on a team

Knowledge/Experience (optional, but a bonus): Experience with data analysis, basic research and field methods preferred. Working knowledge of aquatic ecology, hydrology, or limnology is beneficial.

Timeline:

Intern will be on board for a minimum of 2 months, maximum of 3 months (there may be an opportunity to extend for a maximum of 6 months depending on circumstances, but this is not assured).

Desired hours per week: 16 hours per week minimum
(preference will be given to qualified candidates available to work more hours per week).

Desired start date: June 11, 2018

(Please Note: From the time of acceptance, there will be a 2-4 week period prior to first day of work while paperwork is completed.)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: Supply transcripts, resume and cover letter (*indicating the positions or positions you are interested in, your available start date, and approximate hours/weeks you could work*) to R8EPAintern@epa.gov with the subject line: Student Volunteer Internship Program.

For More Information: Julia McCarthy; mccarthy.julia@epa.gov; 303.312.6153

Contact: Elaine Robles, Human Resources, 303.312.6194 or robles.elaine@epa.gov