



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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James J. Gilmore, Jr. (NY), Chair

Patrick C. Keliher (ME), Vice-Chair

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Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

FISHERIES TECHNICIAN – APAIS TEMPORARY FIELD TECHNICIAN

VACANCY #: 0042

Location: East Setauket, NY

Salary: \$21.64/hour + \$4.00/hour medical coverage

Closing Date: Open until filled

assistance (temporary – part-time on call)

Duties: As **Fisheries Technician – APAIS Field Technician**, the incumbent will conduct the field portion of the Access-Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS). This important research study, sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) conducts face-to-face interviews with marine recreational anglers. Field staff will travel to assigned sites to interview anglers about their fishing experiences, collect a variety of information, and (when possible) weigh, measure, and identify fish by species name that the anglers have caught. Assigned sites can include beaches, banks, piers, docks, jetties, and access points for private, charter, and head boats, including marinas, boat ramps and other points of entry to marine waters. Field staff are responsible for filling out field intercept forms with anglers at these sites in addition to completing several other required study forms. The responsibilities of the incumbent will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Successfully complete training, including survey procedures and fish identification tests;
- Follow documented APAIS survey procedures;
- Travel to assigned fishing access sites to interview anglers about their fishing experiences;
- Occasionally work on head boats (for-hire vessels) for at-sea data collection;
- Identify key species of fish with extreme accuracy and with little aide of field materials (up to 25 or more different species; guides and training will be provided);
- Complete survey forms and submit to supervisor weekly;
- Serve as a primary point of contact for New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the recreational fishermen;
- Answer questions and explain the importance of this federally-funded study;
- Other duties as assigned.

Supervision Received: The ACCSP is housed within the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) for administrative purposes, and the Fisheries Technician will be a Commission employee. While an ASMFC employee, the Fisheries Technician reports to the state supervisor on a daily basis. State supervisors make decisions concerning hiring and performance evaluations of the Fisheries Technician.

Locations, and Hours: On *average* field staff work 2 to 3 assignments per week; however, this position may require individuals who will be able to work up to five (5) 8-hour shifts a week if necessary to complete assignments as scheduled. Staff must have flexible availability, and be able to work any and all of the following shift times plus transit time: 2am-8am; 8am-2pm; 2pm-8pm; 8pm-2am; 11am-5pm. This position will require regular weekend work (including Fridays), and qualified candidates must be willing and able to work at least 16 hours each weekend. This position is located primarily at fishing access sites in the State of New York, with occasional office days at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Bureau of Marine Resources in East Setauket, NY. Work is performed primarily in an outdoor setting. The incumbent will report directly to the state APAIS biologist. The Fisheries Technician is an hourly, temporary employee. This position supports data collection from month to month. Payment is based on hours worked and qualifies for overtime pay. This position is not eligible for benefits.

Position Duration: The incumbent would begin upon the successful completion of training. The position would last through to the end of October, with the possibility of continuing through December depending on staffing constraints.

Qualifications: Applicants must be at least 20 years old have a valid driver's license and access to a personal vehicle; be willing to travel reasonable distances to reach assigned sites; be available on weekends and weekdays, with additional availability during some evenings, nights, and holidays. Individuals should be comfortable approaching and speaking with strangers; handling, measuring, and weighing fish; and working outside for extended periods of time in variable weather conditions. Applicants must have legible handwriting and meticulous attention to detail and be able to complete, organize, safely store, and ship paperwork in a timely fashion. Proven communication and interpersonal skills and an ability to work independently, organize work and solve problems following prescribed procedures should all be demonstrated. Knowledge of fish species with experience in the area of recreational angling and familiarity of marine waterways in their local area is preferred. Must be eligible to work in the United States.

Training: APAIS Field Technicians will be required to attend an in-person paid training in East Setauket, NY. Trainees must successfully complete training to continue employment on the project including passing a fish species identification test and a survey procedures test with no less than 90% accuracy.

Application Process: Please email a resume and cover letter referencing the vacancy number 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 (**0042**) 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.

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