

Job Title: Forest Pest Research Intern

Location: Invasive Species Centre Office, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

Application Deadline: Ongoing, until position filled

Tentative Start Date: October 06, 2025

Status: Full-time, Contract – 1 year (52 weeks total internship, 37.5 hours per week)

Salary: \$21.00/hour

If you are passionate about protecting Canada's forests and waterways and enjoy working as a part of an upbeat and fast-paced team, please read on.

The Invasive Species Centre (ISC) mobilizes action against invasive species that harm the environment, economy, and society. Incorporated as a not-for-profit in 2011 as a hub for collaboration and knowledge sharing, the ISC has grown into a respected collaborator and leader in invasive species knowledge and action. We rely on values of inclusion, innovation, stewardship, collaboration, and commitment to excellence to achieve our vision of a Canada where land and water are protected from invasive species. If you are passionate about environmental protection, science communication, outreach and action, and enjoy working as part of an upbeat and fast-paced team, please follow the application instructions at the end of this posting.

Position Summary

The Forest Pest Research Intern will support a variety of new and ongoing invasive species laboratory work including insect identification, data management and analysis, and eDNA sample kit preparation and analysis. This person will also create technical documents and outreach materials that provide information to community members on emerging and priority invasive species that have the potential to impact the ecology, economy, and society of Ontario. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to collaborate with a wide range of researchers including those from MNR, OFRI, CFIA, and NRCan and develop educational resources to promote on-the-ground action of invasive species in Ontario. Our ideal candidate is passionate about our mission to prevent the introduction and spread of

invasive species on our lands and waters and will be comfortable working in both office and laboratory environments.

Principal Accountabilities

The Intern will:

- Assist in the insect identification laboratory. Data analysis of insects that have been reported to be provided to researchers as a primary source to inform Ontario's Annual Forest Health Review, Forest Health Conditions report, and additional research projects and analysis as needed.
- Review and create technical documents and perform literature reviews and research synthesis on priority invasive pest species including oak wilt and hemlock woolly adelgid and on research-based methodology such as clean equipment protocols.
- Support the development of HWA community monitoring kits used in research data collection.
- Support the review and in some cases generation of plain language communications tools and products ensuring scientific and technical accuracy.
- Assist with taxonomic identification on reports of invasive insects using insect keys and traditional microscope methods.
- Overall, the Intern will have the opportunity to collaborate with a wide range of researchers including those from MNR, OFRI, CFIA, and NRCan
- Support eDNA and DNA coordination projects in relation to Aquatic Invasive Plant Species including Phragmites through lab sample preparation as required, DNA kit creation, dissemination, and collection, data management, data analysis and dissemination and addressing eDNA and DNA partner questions and concerns as required

Minimum Qualifications

The successful candidate will be a university or college graduate who has graduated within the last three years from an accredited college or university. The candidate must be a graduate of a post-secondary degree or diploma program. The position will be the first full-time employment in the candidate's field of study.

Preferred Qualifications

- Degree or diploma in the sciences; and
- Bilingualism in either French, English or Indigenous languages and additional educational credentials and/or experience in natural or environmental sciences also considered assets.
- Experience working in a laboratory environment

Key Competencies

- Eager to learn about invasive species in Canada
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, with the ability to translate scientific and technical information into publicly accessible language
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively
- Excited to learn and adapt quickly to new projects and tasks
- Ability to connect and communicate effectively with members of the public
- Demonstrate self-motivation and initiative
- Strong organizational skills and ability to manage multiple tasks and projects while producing high quality results

Other Requirements

- The candidate must be legally entitled to work according to the relevant provincial legislation and regulations
- Candidates chosen for an interview may be asked to share a portfolio of past work
- The candidate may not have previously participated in an internship program and must be a recent graduate holding a diploma or degree from an accredited post-secondary institution
- Possess a valid Ontario driver's license. Access to a vehicle considered an asset as occasional travel may be required.

- The successful candidate will work from the Invasive Species Centre offices in Sault Ste. Marie. There is no opportunity for hybrid or remote work.

Instructions for Applicants

Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis until position is filled.

Please submit your application package as a single PDF document. This document must include a cover letter (1 page maximum) and a resume describing your education and related work experience. Please submit via email to:

David Dutkiewicz, Entomology Technician

Invasive Species Centre, 1219 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 2E5

Email: careers@invasivespeciescentre.ca

No telephone calls please. Only candidates chosen for an interview will be contacted.

The Invasive Species Centre is an equal opportunity and accessible employer. The Invasive Species Centre will provide accommodation for candidates with disabilities during the recruitment process, upon request.