

Research Technicians

Interested in animal behavior and invasive species? Do you want to help create novel and innovative devices that will manage invasive sea lamprey in the Great Lakes?

[The Applied Behavioral Ecology Lab](#) at Michigan State University seeks full-time (40 hrs. per week) temporary (May 1st – July 31st with some flexibility on start/end dates) research technicians to assist with research projects related to the construction of selective fish passages. This position allows technicians to develop engineering skills and apply behavioral ecology to create means of controlling populations of invasive lamprey in the Great Lakes. We aim to design and test passages that will block lamprey access to rivers, while allowing native species to pass. 2025 projects will specifically investigate how turbulence and predation risk (via a chemical alarm cue) influence lamprey behavior and movement.

Technicians will be engaged in testing selective fish passage devices by running behavioral experiments on sea lamprey in large indoor raceways. This will involve installing pit telemetry systems, configuring passage devices, implanting pit tags, observing and handling lamprey, preparing lamprey chemical cues, maintaining lab equipment, and data collection/analysis. Technicians may also have the opportunity to collaborate with Federal agency partners and other stakeholders. When working at Hammond Bay Station, housing will be provided nearby.

Location: Hammond Bay Biological Station, Millersburg, Michigan

Qualifications: Enrolled in an undergraduate institution in the field of fisheries, ecology, biology, engineering, or a related discipline. Applicants must be comfortable handling animals and working in and around water. Our study species is nocturnal, so work will often take place at night, and requires technicians to lift up to 40 lbs. and spend long periods of time on their feet. Prospective technicians should work well in a team, but should be able to work independently as well, with a strong work ethic and positive attitude. University vehicles used for travel, drivers will need to have a satisfactory driver's check. Experience working with power tools and performing building/maintenance tasks is preferred but not required.

Compensation: Hourly wage, commensurate with experience, starts at a minimum of \$15/hr.

How to apply: Send application materials as a single PDF document to creamer6@msu.edu. Application should include a cover letter outlining your interest and suitability for the position, an up-to-date CV or resume, and up to three references with contact information.

Please make sure to include: 1) your name; 2) a permanent mailing address; 3) telephone number; 4) email address; 5) education, including descriptions of relevant classes; 6) work or volunteer experience related to the job role.

Direct any questions to David Creamer at creamer6@msu.edu. Application review will begin on February 14th and continue until filled.

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