

## Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Technician (Vessel Captain) Position

**Position:** Fisheries Technician (Vessel Captain) located at the Charlevoix Fisheries Research Station, 96 Grant Street, Charlevoix, Michigan, USA. Information about the Station is available at the following [link](#).

**Duties:** The function of the Senior Fisheries Technician (Research Vessel Captain) is to serve as one captain of a two-captain team to operate research vessels conducting survey and assessment projects on the Great Lakes. Vessel Captains share the responsibility for decisions regarding crew and vessel safety during operations on the Great Lakes and other waters of the State. Vessel captains serve as senior crew members on vessels performing technician duties when not actively captaining the vessel. They perform duties such as collecting fisheries and limnological data during fish surveys, maintaining data and recording samples collected, processing samples such as fish stomachs and ageing structures, entering data and performing quality control, and summarization activities. Vessel Captains perform more complex duties such as coordinating maintenance and repair of the vessel, research station facilities, and related equipment to ensure safe operation and that all systems are fully functional. A senior level technician vessel captain understands and implements current Great Lakes navigation and safety rules. Additionally, they interpret weather and sea conditions using up-to-date methods, technology, and knowledge to ensure safe vessel operation. This position will work on other survey projects, operate small boats, and perform sample and data processing, and data entry when not occupied with research vessel related responsibilities.

**Qualifications:** Applicants should be self-starting, highly-motivated individuals interested in contributing toward fisheries management and research on the Great Lakes. Education requirements include possession of an associate's degree in science with course work emphasis in limnology, ichthyology, aquatic systems, or field biology. Applicants must have three years of experience performing technical fisheries management activities equivalent to a Fisheries Technician, including one year equivalent to a Fisheries Technician E10. Applicants must possess a license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard to operate a vessel of 100 tons upon the Great Lakes and inland waters at the time of application.

**Wage and Benefits:** Hourly pay rates as of October 1, 2024 are \$24.77 (base minimum) up to \$35.85 depending on experience. Overtime pay is earned throughout the field season. Employees accrue annual and sick leave every two-week pay period and have 14 scheduled holidays per year. Insurances include health, vision, dental and life. Employees have the option to purchase additional life, accidental death, long term disability, and long-term care insurance. Flexible spending accounts for medical expenses and childcare are also available as well as 12 weeks of paid parental leave. Employees may invest income in a tax-deferred retirement investment program. The state offers two optional deferred compensation plans, the 457 and 401(k). Additional information can be found at the following [link](#).

**Charlevoix Area:** Charlevoix is a beautiful town on the shores of Lake Michigan in Michigan's Lower Peninsula. The population was 2,474 in 2022. Charlevoix has a hospital and numerous medical services, 2 public schools (K-6 and 7-12), a K-7 Catholic school, a modern library, a community pool, several parks, and a small ski hill. Average high temperature ranges from 29°F in January to 76°F in July and snowfall averages 120 inches. More information is available on the following websites: [Wikipedia - Charlevoix](#); [Visit Charlevoix](#); [Charlevoix Chamber of Commerce](#).

**Application:** The application period is November 13-27 and candidates must apply via NeoGov ([LINK](#)). For questions about the position, please contact Patrick Hanchin ([hanchinp@michigan.gov](mailto:hanchinp@michigan.gov)) 231-330-5290.

