

Position/Title: PhD graduate Student



Agency/State: Montana State University, Ecology Department, Fish and Wildlife Ecology and Management Program. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Bozeman, MT

Responsibilities: The student will work in a lab that specializes in **fisheries ecological physiology**. Research will involve development of novel monitoring tools for fisheries managers to assess the nutritional and overall health status of **endangered wild pallid sturgeon**. While investigating these novel management tools, the student will also investigate ecological and physiological mechanisms that have contributed to emaciation of endangered pallid sturgeon inhabiting the mid-basin Missouri River. The student will collaborate with another graduate student and Federal and State Agency biologists to carry out **field and laboratory studies**. Responsibilities will also involve analysis of historical data accumulated in the National Pallid Sturgeon Database as well as other Agency data depositories. The goal of the project is to come up with novel and non-lethal evidence-based tools for managers to apply to track nutritional, physiological, and overall health status of wild-captured pallid sturgeon.

Qualifications: MS degree in fisheries or closely related field. Strong quantitative skills and physiological background with interest in applying physiological principals to understand influences of ecosystem conditions on fish populations. Experience in conducting research in fish physiology, health, or ecology is desirable.

Salary: Combination of teaching and research assistantships (~\$20,000/yr) + tuition waiver

Application Package: Please email cover letter, curriculum vitae, unofficial transcripts, and GRE scores to Christine Verhille (Christine.verhille@montana.edu) and Kevin Kappenman (kevin_kappenman@fws.gov).

Contact/Email: For more detailed application instructions, contact Christine Verhille christine.verhille@montana.edu

Ad Closing Date: **Midnight November 26, 2018 (project begins March 2019, with option of technician work from Sept 2018 until this PhD begin date – see corresponding tech. ad)**

*Note: although all qualified application submitted before the position is filled will receive serious consideration, we are preferentially searching for an applicant to fill a technician position running from September 2018 until beginning of the PhD research in March 2019.