

**Title:** PhD Research Assistantship

**Agency:** Montana State University

**Location:** Bozeman, MT 59717

**Job Description:** Ph.D. Research Assistantship in the Department of Ecology, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT. We are seeking a highly motivated graduate student at the PhD level to join a collaborative project investigating the role of biodiversity in infectious disease risk. We are using salmonid whirling disease (parasite: *Myxobolus cerebralis*, alternative host: *Tubifex tubifex*) of western streams as the model system. This interdisciplinary project involves collaboration with engineering and molecular population genetics faculty at the University of Vermont. The MSU student will be most directly involved in both field surveys and laboratory experiments relating the tubificid community to disease risk in salmonids.

**Qualifications:** Applicants should have a BS or MS degree in ecology, zoology, biology or a related field. Strong quantitative and writing skills required. Prior experience with field methods used in stream ecology and benthic macroinvertebrate collection and identification and/or disease ecology preferred. Position available starting mid August 2009 with enrollment commencing Fall semester 2009 or Spring semester 2010. Submit cover letter, resume, copies of transcripts and GRE scores, and names and telephone numbers of 3 references to DR. BILLIE L. KERANS ([bkerans@montana.edu](mailto:bkerans@montana.edu)), Department of Ecology, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717 by either email or regular mail.

**Salary:** Stipend of \$18,000 per year with substantial tuition waiver

**Last date to apply:** August 1, 2009

**Website:** <http://www.montana.edu/wwwbi/staff/kerans/kerans.html>

**Contact:** Dr. Billie L. Kerans

Email: [bkerans@montana.edu](mailto:bkerans@montana.edu) (preferred)

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