

Aquatic Nonindigenous Species Master's Degree Graduate Student Position Recruitment
Start Date: January 2023
University of Vermont

Project: Lake Champlain Sea Grant, based at the University of Vermont, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, US Geological Survey, and US Environmental Protection Agency are seeking an individual to assist in creation of the Lake Champlain Aquatic Nonindigenous Species Information System. Working with this partnership team, the graduate student will have opportunity to develop and address specific hypotheses for a thesis-based degree or to pursue a project-based degree focused on this initiative. In either case, the graduate student will engage in literature reviews, interviews, and herbaria and museum collections research to determine and verify aquatic nonindigenous species' first detection in the Lake Champlain basin and to map species presence overtime. The graduate student will enter findings into a newly-developed database for the Lake Champlain basin that is modeled after the Great Lakes Aquatic Nonindigenous Information System (GLANSIS).

Qualifications: B.S. in water resources, natural resources, biology, geography, environmental science, geographic information systems, or related field, and strong interest in pursuing a career focused on aquatic nonindigenous species and their impacts to lake ecosystems. Applicants should express how their education, experience, and career goals align with the project objectives. Applicants should be able to work independently and also cooperatively with the various project partners to establish a baseline of information about ANS in the Lake Champlain basin. Applicants should have a strong work ethic, excellent organizational skills, meticulous attention to detail, and willingness to travel across the Lake Champlain basin and surrounding region to collect data and information relevant to this research. Research activities may take place outside of normal working hours, including nights and weekends. While expected to be limited, field activities may include in-stream and on-lake sample collection, and may require exposure to weather, rough waters, traversing rough/steep stream access points, and getting wet and/or muddy. Applicants should have demonstrated ability and willingness to work with diverse constituencies and should express this in their applications. Applicants should have a valid driver's license and ability to become qualified to drive university vehicles.

Application: Submit a cover letter and resume or CV to Kris Stepenuck (kstepenu@uvm.edu) by October 4, 2022, using the subject line: "ANS Graduate student position." Interviews are anticipated to take place in mid-October. In addition, assistantship selection is dependent upon acceptance to the UVM graduate school.