



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# National Conservation Training Center

## *Training Announcement*

### Freshwater Mussel Propagation for Restoration

CSP 1102

#### Course Description

Freshwater Mussel Propagation for Restoration is an introductory course designed to explore all culture activities associated with freshwater mussels. Participants will explore the latest culture techniques as they follow freshwater mussels through their entire life cycle in a culture facility, from the collection of gravid females to stocking cultured juvenile freshwater mussels. Following a basic introduction on mussel biology and the goals of mussel propagation, the course will cover the basics of building a culture facility, collecting and maintaining brood stock, collecting host species, infesting host species with larval mussels, collecting and culturing juvenile mussels, and releasing juveniles to the wild.



Matthew Patterson (USFWS)

#### Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- ✓ describe the internal and external anatomy of a freshwater mussel
- ✓ collect and maintain freshwater mussel brood stock in captivity
- ✓ collect and maintain host species in captivity
- ✓ harvest freshwater mussel larvae and infest host species
- ✓ collect newly metamorphosed juvenile mussels and culture them for release
- ✓ describe the advantages and disadvantages of the various techniques, equipment, and culture units used in freshwater mussel propagation throughout the United States.
- ✓ release and monitor cultured juvenile freshwater mussels
- ✓ maintain accurate records and publish results

#### Date

September 18 – September 22, 2017

#### Location

National Conservation Training Center,  
Shepherdstown, WV

#### Who Should Attend

Biologists interested in freshwater mussel biology and freshwater mussel culture techniques.

#### Course Length

4.5 days

#### College Credit

2 semester hours

#### Tuition

Tuition for FWS, NPS, and BLM is prepaid. Tuition is \$1,195.00 for participants from other agencies and organizations.

#### To Register

**DOI employees:** Log In to DOI Learn, enter the course title in the search box, click scheduled classes, click submit request.

**Non-DOI employees:** If you do not have a DOI Learn account, please contact Matthew Patterson for instructions on how to create an account.

#### Course Contact

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