



**NYS WATER  
RESOURCES  
INSTITUTE**  
Cornell University

## **Job Posting: Freshwater Mussel Biologist, Cambridge NY**

The New York State Water Resources Institute (NYSWRI) at Cornell University has as its mission to improve the management of water resources in New York State and the nation. NYSWRI collaborates with regional, state, and national partners to increase awareness of emerging water resources issues and to develop and assess new water resource management approaches, technologies, and policies. NYSWRI connects water research and water management communities.

### **Freshwater Mussel Biologist**

This position represents a partnership between the New York State Water Resources Institute (NYSWRI) and the Bureau of Ecosystem Health (BEH) in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Division of Fish and Wildlife. The mission of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is to conserve, improve and protect New York's natural resources and environment and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution, in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state and their overall economic and social well-being. The Bureau of Ecosystem Health (BEH) in DEC's Division of Fish and Wildlife safeguards New York's fish and wildlife resources through the protection of environmental quality.

The Freshwater Mussel Biologist will work with BEH and in partnership with the New York State Museum (NYSM) on tasks related to native freshwater mussel community research, recovery, and restoration on the Hudson River. Work will focus on understanding impacts from the contamination and cleanup of PCBs on the ecosystem services mussels provide, such as sediment stability, nutrient cycling, and water filtration. The Freshwater Mussel Biologist would apply the knowledge gained on the Hudson River to other large clean-up sites, such as the Grasse River, and other waterbodies where mussels are or may be impacted. Position Responsibilities will fall into the following general categories:

- Research and restoration support to foster long term success of native freshwater mussels in NY
- Coordination and collaboration across project partners
- Analysis of existing and collected data, and writing to communicate results to various audiences
- Reporting to ensure compliance with relevant agreements and requirements
- Representation of NYSWRI, Cornell, and project partners (BEH and NYSM)

**This position is full-time (40 hours/week) and will be located at the NYS Museum's Field Research Laboratory in Cambridge, New York. This is a three -year appointment with possible extension depending on funding and performance.**

**Visa sponsorship and relocation assistance cannot be provided for this position.**

### **Requirements / Qualifications**

#### **Required Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent in the field of biological, chemical or physical sciences, with an emphasis on ecology (preferred), natural resource management, or a related field and 3 to 5 years of relevant experience or equivalent combination
- Strong analytical, verbal and written communication skills as well as the ability to write grant applications and develop budgets and contract documents.
- Must be able to demonstrate effective project management and organizational skills.
- Working familiarity with Microsoft Office suite.
- Ability to travel overnight within New York State and work evenings and weekends as essential job functions require.
- Must be able to meet the travel requirements of the position (5-10% of monthly time) and have reliable transportation as well as have and maintain a valid and unrestricted New York State driver's license and be cleared to drive for university business.
- Ability to cultivate and develop inclusive and equitable working relationships with students, faculty, staff, and community members.
- Experience in and/or demonstrated commitment to supporting diversity, equity, access, inclusion, and wellbeing.

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Master's degree or equivalent in the field of biological, chemical or physical sciences, with an emphasis on freshwater ecology (preferred), fisheries, natural resource management, or a related field with an environmental restoration focus.
- Experience and training in native freshwater mussel ecology is preferred.
- Knowledge of environmental contaminants and familiarity with aquatic biota sampling methods, including an advanced ability to handle boats and related technology and supporting SCUBA divers.
- Familiarity with Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

**Application process**

Applicants should submit application materials through the Cornell Workday system at the following website link:

[https://cornell.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/CornellCareerPage/details/Freshwater-Mussel-Biologist---Biological---Environmental-Engineering\\_WDR-00049728?q=mussell](https://cornell.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/CornellCareerPage/details/Freshwater-Mussel-Biologist---Biological---Environmental-Engineering_WDR-00049728?q=mussell)

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**EEO Statement:**

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans and Individuals with Disabilities. We also recognize a lawful preference in employment practices for Native Americans living on or near Indian reservations. Cornell University is an innovative Ivy League university and a great place to work. Our inclusive community of scholars, students, and staff impart an uncommon sense of larger purpose, and contribute creative ideas to further the university's mission of teaching, discovery, and engagement.

*WRI recognizes that historically, the environmental sector has not been inclusive, and that environmental harm continues to disproportionately impact BIPOC and other marginalized communities. In an effort to address this legacy and its ongoing harms, we are interested in recruiting candidates from the most impacted frontline and fence lines communities and those from other backgrounds currently underrepresented in the environmental sector. BIPOC, women, TNBGC individuals, those with disabilities, and individuals from other backgrounds*

*underrepresented in the water and environmental sectors are particularly encouraged to apply.*

Thank you for your interest! We look forward to reviewing your application!