

JOB POSTING: VIDEO ANALYST & DATA RETRIEVAL TECHNICIAN

Maine Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Program

Position Location: Portland, ME, USA

Start Date: April 1st, 2015 or when qualified candidate is found

Type: on-call to PTE – 6 - 12 month contract

Compensation: Competitive rates, commensurate with experience.

Terms of Employment: This is a part time on-call position. During peak fishing times the part time position will be based on ~20 hours per week and will require flexible working hours. However, this is only an estimate and may change. Flexible working hours will be required for this position to help service the fleet and review video data. The number of hours per week will depend on the number of vessels fishing on any given week and how much data is collected and retrieved. Based on the program in 2014, the on-call hours fluctuate with more hours required during season start up and busy times (April – September) and some service calls and data review during the remainder of the year.

Position will be housed at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute in Portland, Maine. Payment is semi-monthly through Ecotrust Canada's regular payroll system. Travel and miscellaneous expenses, as required for job performance, are compensated according to Ecotrust Canada's policy manual.

Background:

Through a collaboration between Ecotrust Canada, Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI), The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and Maine Coast Community Sector (MCCS), an innovative and cost effective Electronic Monitoring (EM) system is being developed and operationalized in the New England groundfish fishery to collect certain data sets comparable to the At-Sea Monitoring (ASM) program of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

The EM systems used in the New England groundfish fishery consist of the hardware and software necessary to collect data from video cameras, GPS and hydraulic pressure sensors to monitor vessel movements and fishing activity. The EM technology itself is divided into three components. The physical EM control box is a small computer that records data coming from cameras, GPS, and pressure sensors. It contains recording software that reads and compiles the data on hard drives. The hard drives are then copied and studied using analysis software that prepares data for review by trained technicians, both data analysts and video analysts. The system can also be used to capture and create an electronic log of vessel activity using a NOAA approved electronic reporting software program developed by Ecotrust Canada and installed on EM systems.

Ecotrust Canada is an enterprising non-profit organization that supports initiatives resulting in improved livelihoods and environmental and community conditions. Our fisheries team has many years of direct experience in commercial fisheries and fishery monitoring programs. For more information, please see www.ecotrust.ca

Responsibilities:

The Video Analyst/Data Retrieval Technician is responsible to Amanda Barney, Ecotrust Canada Marine Monitoring Program Manager and will work under the coordinated supervision of Ecotrust Canada Project Manager Racheal Weymer and GMRI Technical Programs Manager Mark Hager.

Video analysts are responsible for the efficient collection of quality data from video footage of hauls assigned to them by supervisors. For these hauls the video will be reviewed in order to record the following:

- the species, life status and treatment of each incidental take of a marine mammal or protected species;
- for all discarded Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE) managed species a length per fish; and
- for all discarded monkfish a length per fish.

Individual fish are identified to species (when possible) and lengths are estimated using length strips adhered to sorting tables or trawl decks (depending on gear type). As individual fish are passed over the length strip, video reviewers will observe and record species and length data. All pertinent information regarding ACE species and monkfish will be recorded on an MS Excel spreadsheet. This spreadsheet includes data fields for the unique video identifying number, haul number, retained/discarded, species name, quantity, species code, length, weight, and ACE y/n. Reviewer lengths are converted to weights using a New England Fisheries Science Center approved length-weight relationships.

Data retrieval technicians are responsible for the retrieval of data from fishing vessels and for performing system maintenance checks while on-board. The technician will be responsible for reporting any system or sensor malfunctions to the EM team and helping coordinate services calls. Equipment will be provided by Ecotrust Canada and made available to you in Portland, ME. You are responsible for having access to a vehicle to use for work call-outs, and you will be compensated for mileage incurred through the completion of your job duties and for the use of your phone for work-related calls.

You will be responsible for tracking the hours worked and vessels visited, and reporting the information every two weeks or as required. When you are called to do data retrievals on one or more vessels, you will be compensated for a minimum of two hours for the call-out. Every effort should be made to schedule appointments back-to-back.

Qualifications

- Previous experience working in the New England groundfish fishery, preferably completed either NEFOP or ASM training course at the fisheries sampling branch and have good standing with the NEFOP species verification program or equivalent training and experience with the identification of northeast species.
- Will have proven experience with fisheries monitoring and electronic equipment, or a technical aptitude and willingness to be trained.
- A valid driver's license and access to a vehicle.
- Previous experience with data entry, and good task management and tracking skills.
- Working knowledge of Excel and a high comfort level working with video software are assets.
- At-sea experience aboard both gillnet and trawl vessels an asset.
- Basic linux (command line) and debugging/troubleshooting experience an asset.

To Apply

Please submit a cover letter, resume and references **by April 1st, 2015** outlining how you meet the desired qualifications by email to Amanda@ecotrust.ca and mhager@Gmri.org. Questions about the position can be submitted to same.

We encourage all interested parties to apply. We will contact those shortlisted for an interview and species identification test directly.