

**Hourly Position: Assistant Aquatic Disease Biologist**

Office of Fish & Wildlife Health & Forensics  
N.J. Division of Fish & Wildlife  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Open: March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021; Closes: April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 or until filled



The Office of Fish & Wildlife Health & Forensics, Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory, is searching for a temporary employee to assist with aquatic animal disease investigations, pathogen surveillance and research. It is expected that some of the work may include assisting the Wildlife Veterinarian in the office with terrestrial wildlife projects as needed. The hours can be negotiated and include full-time or part time options.

The candidate will be working at the Pequest Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory in Oxford, NJ. Some of the work will occur in the Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory, NJ Department of Agriculture in Ewing NJ. Work locations may be flexible depending on the candidate's situation. Candidates that are interested in aquatic animal health, molecular biology, and/or aquatic animal diagnostic testing are encouraged to apply. This is an excellent opportunity to work collaboratively with state biologists and various laboratories to investigate and survey fish and wildlife populations for important and emerging disease threats in the state.

**Education and experience:** A Bachelor's Degree with a focus in fish or wildlife biology and/or animal disease is required. Experience working in a laboratory is necessary. The individual should be self-motivated and have a strong background and interest in fish and wildlife health and laboratory work. Preference will be given to candidates with experience in molecular biology, including DNA/RNA extraction, polymerase chain reaction, sequencing, and running real-time PCR. Other beneficial experience includes histology, tissue sample collection, and other laboratory experience.

**Duties:**

The employee is expected to assist in field and laboratory activities in the Office of Fish and Wildlife Health and Forensics. Projects include aquatic animal health surveillance in marine and freshwater fish populations, shellfish disease surveillance, and terrestrial wildlife health. Projects are dependent on program needs. Duties will include sample collection from a variety of animals, molecular biology processing (extraction, PCR and preparing samples for sequence analysis), and assisting with histology. It is encouraged to assist with the preparation of reports and publications.

**Wages:**

This is a temporary hourly position with an hourly wage between \$16-\$20 per hour. Hourly wage is dependent on qualifications and experience.

**To apply:**

Please send an email with two attachments, 1) a cover letter stating your interest and suitability for the position and 2) a current Curriculum Vitae. For consideration for this position, email your information to Jan Lovy at the contact below by 4:00 pm, Friday April 9<sup>th</sup>. We will continue evaluating applications until the position is filled. Only those candidates that will be invited for an interview will be contacted.

Jan Lovy, Ph.D.  
Research Scientist in Aquatic Animal Health  
Office of Fish & Wildlife Health & Forensics  
N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife  
605 Pequest Rd. Oxford, NJ 07863  
Office Tel: (908) 637-4173 ext. 120  
Email: [Jan.Lovy@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Jan.Lovy@dep.nj.gov)