

Research Scientist, Flathead Lake Biological Station (FLBS)

Job Description

The Flathead Lake Biological Station (FLBS) invites applications for a Research Scientist to work under the supervision of FLBS Senior Scientist, Erin Sexton to complete the research assigned to this temporary position. The appointee is expected to be both highly independent and collaborative, and s/he will have significant leeway in the scope and design of components of the larger project. A key requirement is that the individual have the ability to see intellectually and technically complex projects through to their conclusion, which will involve developing methodological approaches and reviewing, analyzing, and interpreting scientific data and results from the project. Great autonomy and ability to exhibit independent decision making is expected in designing and implementing strategies for achieving shared research goals.

The primary responsibility of this appointee is to provide technical expertise and coordination for the establishment of baseline/reference condition, environmental impact, and risk assessment for legacy, current and proposed hard rock mining projects in the British Columbia headwaters of AK/BC international watersheds (Taku, Stikine and Unuk Rivers). In addition, the appointee will develop and coordinate research activities, identify key information gaps and priorities, and develop research plans for funding and implementation in subsequent years.

Appointee will work with a well-established network of academic, governmental agency, Tribal and NGO partners, as well as a small Scientific Advisory Committee comprised of academic and agency experts who will provide guidance, technical expertise and increased access to emerging research on these rivers, and to relevant data/research.

Specific responsibilities include:

1. Develop, initiate, analyze and store an inventory of historical, on-going and planned data collection in the AK/BC transboundary watersheds with partners across the transboundary watersheds.
2. Coordinate communication and collaboration across Southeast Alaska and British Columbia, including public presentations on findings, and providing technical expertise and support of partners and stakeholders.
3. Initiate assessment of effects pathways, stressors and receptors in the transboundary watersheds from mining and mine-related activities; and identify potential pathways of impact, stressors and ecological vulnerabilities (fish, water, aquatic life, terrestrial life) to current and proposed mining development.
4. Develop and complete a 'Gap Analysis' with respect to baseline, environmental impact and long-term monitoring in the AK/BC transboundary watersheds.
5. Prioritize future scientific activities based on the findings from the initial data and research inventory, and with input from the scientific advisory committee (SAC), develop a list of priority science, monitoring activities and corresponding research plans.
6. Coordinate a minimum of one transboundary watershed science workshop including regional partners, aimed at fostering a science network, supporting the data inventory and data needs efforts.

The University of Montana is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer and has a strong institutional commitment to the principle of diversity in all areas. In that spirit, we are particularly

interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of qualified people who would assist the University in demonstrating its essential values of leadership, diversity, engagement and sustainability.

Position Details

- Position is full-time, 1.0 FTE, 12-month, Letter of Appointment
- Includes a comprehensive and competitive **benefits package** including Insurance package, mandatory retirement plan, partial tuition waiver, and wellness program
- Salary for this position is \$50,000 per year commensurate with qualifications
- The position is to be located in Southeast Alaska but subject to location changes based upon research requirements as determined by the direct supervisor

Required Qualifications

- M.S. in environmental or aquatic sciences, or related field, with the ability to represent the University of Montana, Flathead Lake Biological Station to governments, agencies and partners
- Demonstrated experience of excellent research capabilities required to carry out innovative and thoughtful research
- Demonstrated ability to identify analyze and summarize relevant literature
- Demonstrated ability to communicate complex ideas and concepts (both orally and in writing) to scientific and non-scientific audiences
- Ability and willingness to undertake collaborative research across multiple jurisdictions and entities
- Demonstrated ability to live and work for long periods in remote settings during all times of the year and to make appropriate field/backcountry decisions 'on the fly'
- Demonstrated ability to perform physical labor (e.g., lift up to 60 lbs.)
- Extensive working knowledge of standard computer applications (e.g., Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, etc.)
- Willingness to live in or near Juneau or Ketchikan, Alaska, and to travel extensively in the transboundary watersheds across British Columbia/Alaska with additional travel to Montana and CA/US government capitals
- Valid passport or ability to obtain

Preferred Qualifications

- Demonstrated ability to publish original research in landscape/watershed ecology
- Demonstrated ability to coordinate agency and public policy interactions at the federal, state, Tribal and local levels
- Experience and familiarity with governmental environmental impact assessment processes and documents

How to Apply

Priority Application Date: July 5, 2018

For application instructions, required application materials, and to learn more about UM and Missoula, please apply at <http://bit.ly/1982flbs>.

University of Montana is an ADA/EOE/AA/Veteran's Preference Employer