

## **Research Assistant / Bronx River Fish and Shellfish Project (seasonal)**

As stewards of nearly 14 percent of New York City's land, the Department of Parks & Recreation [www.nyc.gov/parks](http://www.nyc.gov/parks) builds and maintains clean, safe and accessible parks citywide, and programs those parks with recreational, cultural and educational activities for people of all ages. EOE

**Natural Resources Group (NRG)** is a division within Parks & Recreation. Established in 1984, the NRG is responsible for acquisition, protection, restoration, and management of remnant and restored natural areas within the 28,000 acres of City parkland. NRG develops natural area management and restoration programs and serves as a clearinghouse for technical research that aids in the protection and restoration of the City's natural resources.

### **Scope of Work:**

NRG has a seasonal position for a research assistant with prior fieldwork experience, preferably in fish and shellfish monitoring, to participate in multiple Bronx River restoration projects. These projects involve anadromous fish stocking and monitoring; pilot oyster reef monitoring; and vegetarian monitoring. Working with NRG project managers and community groups, the research assistant will review past data; conduct research; draft reports; and coordinate with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in developing plans for fish stocking/monitoring.

### **Duration of Position:**

The position begins in early March '08 and lasts for 6-9 months with flexible start and end date.

### **Tasks Include:**

- Project Implementation / Monitor fieldwork under the guidance of project managers.
- Oyster Gardens / Sustain and expand oyster gardens on the Bronx River with assistance of Rocking the Boat, a non-profit youth organization.
- Data Analysis and Report Writing / Enter data for fish monitoring and pilot oyster reef project. Provide support in drafting reports for NRG and grant funders.
- Fish Stocking and Monitoring / Coordinate stocking effort with scientists and monitoring effort with the WCS.

**Research Assistant Requirements:** BA and 6 months satisfactory full-time experience in research that involves gathering, organizing and analyzing data, and report writing; or Associate's Degree, (or completion of 60 credits at an accredited college) plus 2 years and 6 months of satisfactory full-time experience in research; or a High School diploma (or its educational equivalent) and 4 years of satisfactory full-time experience in research; or Education and experience equivalent to the above. Undergraduate college credit can be substituted for experience on the basis of 30 semester credits for 1 year of full-time experience. Completion of 9 credits, at the college or graduate level, in statistics, quantitative methods, mathematics, or research can be substituted for 6 months of the required experience. However, all candidates must possess a 4-year high school diploma (or its educational equivalent) and at least 6 months of required experience or the 9 specialized credits.

### **Preferred Skills/Qualifications:**

- Valid Driver's License
- Ability to conduct research and work independently
- Experience in field ecology, specifically fish, shellfish and riverine systems
- Ability to work under adverse conditions (heat, early/late hours, inclement weather, muddy and/or wet conditions)
- Experience with GPS and GIS

**Duration:** 6 – 9 months

**Hours:** 35 hrs per wk

**Salary:** \$19.38/hour

**To Apply:** Please send resume, cover letter, and writing sample to: [susan.stanley@parks.nyc.gov](mailto:susan.stanley@parks.nyc.gov) (preferred), or mail to: Susan Stanley, Natural Resources Group, 1234 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10029