

M.S. and Ph.D. Student Positions (Multiple)

Aquatic Ecology Laboratory

The Ohio State University

Columbus, OH

Research opportunities: Dr. Stuart Ludsin (<http://www.ludsinlab.com/>) and Dr. Elizabeth Marschall (<http://www.ael.osu.edu/people/marschall>) have openings for M.S. and Ph.D. students to conduct basic and applied research in aquatic ecology in a variety of ecosystems using field, laboratory, experimental, and modeling approaches. General research areas include: 1) exploring life-history traits, optimal energy and parental effort allocation, and physiological and behavioral responses of fish to a changing environment; 2) understanding how population structure, community and ecosystem processes, and physical factors interact to drive recruitment, movement behavior, and population demographics of top predators in Lake Erie (e.g., Walleye, Yellow Perch, Smallmouth Bass) and Ohio reservoirs (e.g., Saugeye, Hybrid Striped Bass, Blue Catfish); 3) developing and using natural tags (genetic markers, otolith microchemistry) in Lake Erie Walleye and Yellow Perch to discriminate local breeding populations (i.e., stocks), assess stock structure, and quantify population connectivity; and 4) using acoustic telemetry and other tagging techniques to assess the behavior (e.g., vertical and horizontal movement, spawning, foraging) of Walleye and Yellow Perch in Lake Erie.

We expect to have funding to support 2-4 graduate students for the duration of their graduate degree. Incumbent students could be advised jointly by Drs. Marschall and Ludsin or independently. Exact project details will not be known until late September or early October.

Location: Successful candidates will join a dynamic, interactive group of students, post-docs, and faculty at The Ohio State University's Aquatic Ecology Laboratory (AEL; <http://ael.osu.edu/>) within the Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology (EEOB; <http://eeob.osu.edu/>).

Qualifications: Successful applicants will be creative, motivated, and capable of working effectively both independently and in collaborative groups. A degree in biology, ecology, general aquatic sciences, or a related field is desired. Students must have strong writing and quantitative skills.

Stipend: ~\$2,325/month plus full tuition waiver and health benefits. All students will be supported as Graduate Research Associates (GRA), Graduate Teaching Associates (GTA), Fellows, or some combination for their entire degree program.

Start date: Summer or fall 2015.

How to apply: The deadline for all graduate admissions applications is December 1, 2014. EEOB graduate application procedures and forms can be found at <http://eeob.osu.edu/grad/program-admissions> and OSU Graduate School requirements at <http://gradadmissions.osu.edu/>. Information for those seeking University Fellowship support can be found at <http://gradadmissions.osu.edu/OSUFellowships.htm>.

As part of the AEL's unofficial screening of interested applicants, please email Dr. Stuart Ludsin (ludsin.1@osu.edu<mailto:ludsin.1@osu.edu>) or Dr. Elizabeth Marschall (marschall.2@osu.edu<mailto:marschall.2@osu.edu>): 1) a letter of interest that briefly describes your educational and research background, describes your research interests, and specifies if you are interested in pursuing a M.S. or Ph.D.; 2) a curriculum vitae (or resume) that also includes your GRE scores and (if applicable) TOEFL/TSE scores; 3) an unofficial copy of your transcripts; and 4) contact information for at least three professional references.

Contact information: For additional information, visit <http://www.ael.osu.edu/> or contact Dr. Ludsin or Dr. Marschall at the above email addresses.