

MSc student opportunity at the University of Manitoba, Experimental Lakes Area in Fisheries Ecology

Over fifty whole-lake experiments have been carried out at the Experimental Lakes Area (ELA) during its 45 year tenure as a federal research facility. Now as an independent entity, IISD-Experimental Lakes Area Inc. seeks to build upon its strong history in aquatic and fisheries research, and expand its research scope towards new and exciting areas of investigation.

We are seeking a self-motivated student interested in fisheries ecology to join a multi-agency project between IISD-Experimental Lakes Area (ELA), the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The research goal of the student will be to apply back-calculation methods to archived ageing structures in order to evaluate changes in fish growth associated with various experimental manipulations conducted at the ELA. The student will also participate in a cross-agency comparison of ageing structure preparation and determination methods, learning preparation and ageing methods from experts in Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The student will conduct field research at the ELA to collect additional ageing structures that will support these research activities, and will have opportunities to work with an extensive and unique database cataloguing individual life histories of tagged fishes over decadal time scales. Students who are competitive for internal (University) scholarships (minimum 3/4.5 GPA) are particularly encouraged to apply. The earliest possible start date for the student is January 2015, but start dates as late as September 2015 will be considered.

Students will have the opportunity to work with a diverse range of scientists within the ELA group, as well as those at the University of Manitoba with expertise in food web ecology, genetics, conservation ecology and advanced statistical analysis, and research scientists with DFO at the Freshwater Institute. Winnipeg is a diverse city with an excellent arts and music scene.

Interested students should contact Dr. Michael D. Rennie, Adjunct Professor, University of Manitoba (mdrennie@iisd-ela.org <<mailto:mdrennie@iisd-ela.org>>) for more information, accompanied by a current CV and 2-3 academic references.