

# Environmental Studies Internship Opportunity at the US Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 Laboratory Field/Biology Team

16194 West 45<sup>th</sup> Drive, Golden, CO 80403



Number of intern positions available for: **spring: 1 summer: 2 fall: 1**

**Contact person:** Jeff McPherson

**Email:** [mcperson.jeffrey@epa.gov](mailto:mcperson.jeffrey@epa.gov)

**Phone:** 303.312.7752

## **Why you should be interested in this opportunity:**

Hands on environmental work in the outdoors, the chance to learn more about EPA and the federal government, a flexible intern schedule, environmental and safety training are part of the internship.

## **Nature of project(s) and skills required:**

This is an internship opportunity to assist biologists conducting environmental field investigations of aquatic ecosystems. Investigations may involve work in different environments to include lakes, mountains, streams, wetlands, industrial facilities, as well as in a laboratory. Typical field work may include stream flow measurement, water chemistry measurement, water quality sample collection, lake profile data collection, physical habitat assessments, field training, stream fish surveys, and benthic macroinvertebrate collection. Laboratory opportunities may include small scale aquatic experiments, benthic macroinvertebrate analysis and if the intern is interested, molecular and microbiology analyses. Fall and spring will have less field work during winter months, but may also include some winter sampling opportunities that include skiing or snowshoeing.

## **Desired intern skills:**

- Enjoys working in variable outdoor conditions to include inclement weather and high altitudes
- Comfortable working in mountainous areas, in streams, and on boats
- Ability to learn how to calibrate and use scientific field equipment
- Physical ability adequate to allow for some for high altitude hiking/snowshoeing with equipment and carrying/loading equipment up to 30 pounds
- Proficiency in the use of databases, spreadsheets, and PowerPoint
- The ability to have a flexible work schedule would give the intern more opportunities to assist with field work on longer field days and possibly some overnight sampling events.

## **Typical intern duties:**

- Environmental field sampling
- Assist with field preparation
- Assist with field sampler training
- Field supply and equipment management
- Field data entry
- Literature research
- Creating or revising documents such as field forms, sampling plans, and standard operating procedures
- May assist with small scale aquatic environmental laboratory experiments
- If interested, assistance with microbiological and molecular analyses
- Online field and lab safety trainings must be passed before participating in field/lab activities.