**POSITION (TITLE):** Aquatic Nuisance Species Monitoring Crew Lead - Temporary Aide (General Labor 1)

**TIMING**: May 1, 2018 – November 16, 2018

**PAY RATE:** $14.00 hour

**LOCATIONS:** Denver (weekly statewide travel required)

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:** April 1, 2018 @ 5:00 pm

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** Conduct Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) survey, using standardized scientific protocols, in various waters throughout Colorado. Specifically, this position will conduct standardized monitoring for zebra mussels, quagga mussels, New Zealand Mudsnails and Eurasian watermilfoil including infestation mapping and population monitoring. Crews will also assist with other ANS and native baseline mapping for mollusks, crayfish, aquatic plants and invertebrates. Water quality monitoring will also be conducted. Detailed record keeping and the ability to follow strict field protocols are required.

Applicant must be able to work both independently and as part of a team, to survey select lakes, reservoirs, streams, and rivers with respect to invasive species. This position will require traveling Monday through Thursday weekly with significant overnight camping. Candidates must be able to work in extreme weather conditions, including working off boats and must be comfortable in backcountry settings. Candidates must have their own reliable camping equipment although some nights will be spent in motels. Daily hours will vary based on the survey location but work hours will be limited to 40 per week.

**SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

Perform leadership related duties accomplish broad statewide objectives for lakes and reservoir invasive species sampling and monitoring. Crew leads are responsible for the following tasks in addition to crew member duties:

* Serve as the lead communicator between the Invasive Species Program office, Sampling Work Leader, ANS Lab and field staff members.
* Ensure the safety of all crew members during all operations. Report safety violations and incident reports.
* Establish the schedule for each week to meet state sampling requirements for high, medium and low risk lakes and reservoirs as dictated by the *State of Colorado ANS Sampling and Monitoring Manual* (2016).
* Ensure the crew members follow the *State of Colorado ANS Sampling and Monitoring Manual* (2016) procedures.
* Ensure that the crew has all necessary working equipment for the week’s operations. Maintain equipment in good working order and report any problems or issues.
* Contact key reservoir owners or managers at least one full week in advance of sampling taking place.
* Ensure that all staff members are respectful and that conflict management occurs when it arises.
* Responsible for the quality of the crew’s data and sample collection procedures and processes.
* Responsible for ensuring that decontamination procedures are followed.
* Responsible for decision making in the field to accomplish assigned duties while maintaining safety.
* Technical report writing.
* Trimble GPS data download, correction, shapefile production and geodatabase importation.
* GIS map production and analysis.
* Verify accuracy of data in the Sampling and Monitoring Data Management System (SMDMS).

Sampling crews are responsible for conducting Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) surveys, using standardized scientific protocols, in various waters throughout Colorado. Specifically, this position will conduct standardized monitoring for zebra and quagga mussels, crayfish, aquatic plants and invertebrates. Sampling methods include plankton tows, substrate deployment and checks, shoreline surveys, plant inventories and crayfish trapping. Water quality monitoring will also be conducted. Detailed record keeping and the ability to follow strict field protocols are required.

Applicant must be able to work both independently and as part of a team, to survey select lakes, reservoirs, streams, and rivers with respect to invasive species. This position will require significant weekly travel and overnight stay. Some overnight stays will be in motels while other nights will be camping overnight. Daily hours will vary based on the survey location but hours will be limited to 40 per week.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**

1. B.S. in natural resources/botany/fisheries/wildlife or other natural resource field OR at least 3 years completed coursework toward a degree in the field is desired.
2. Leadership Experience.
3. Good driving record and ability to travel extensively with overnight stays is mandatory.
4. Ability to drive long hours and remain alert.
5. Previous experience conducting field surveys is required. Preference will be given to candidates with aquatic experience and/or water quality monitoring experience; and to those with prior experience leading a field crew.
6. Excellent communication skills (both written and verbal) are required.
7. Extensive experience boating – including knowledge of boat and trailer anatomy, ability to launch and land in extreme weather, ability to trailer boats on highways and steep mountain roads.
8. Previous experience conducting field surveys is required, preferably experience with aquatics and/or water quality. Preference will be given to candidates with prior zebra or quagga mussel, New Zealand Mudsnail or Eurasian watermilfoil experience and/or population monitoring experience.
9. Must be willing to be flexible with the weekday work schedule, as field work may be dictated by weather.
10. Must be able to work closely in small crews for long hours in a professional manner.
11. Experience with Trimble GPS Units/Trimble Pathfinder and ArcGIS software preferred.
12. Experience with Microsoft Word applications required – Word, Excel, Access and SQL.
13. Excellent organization skills and attention to detail.
14. Ability to swim.

**PREFERRED EDUCATION**: Bachelors Degree in Biological Sciences

**HOW TO APPLY: Send a resume, cover letter and three references electronically in Word or Adobe PDF to:**

Elizabeth Brown

Invasive Species ProgramColorado Parks and WildlifeInvasive.Species@state.co.us 303-291-7295

Background and driving record checks will be conducted for top candidates. Interviews for selected candidates will be held at the CPW Office at 6060 Broadway, Denver, Co 80216. Interview dates TBD.