



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

1141 Bayview Avenue

Biloxi, MS 39530

(228) 374-5000

May 15, 2014

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is recruiting to fill the position described below. **ALL** applications for this position must be filled out online at the Mississippi State Personnel Board's Career Center located at www.mspb.ms.gov under the Job Seekers tab. Please enter the job title as it appears below in the Job Title section.

Resumes are not a substitution for completing a job application. The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources does not have the authority to fill this position above the below listed annual starting salary.

JOB TITLE: **DMR-NERR Resource Specialist III
(Coastal Ecologist)**

ANNUAL STARTING SALARY: **\$36,609.28**

OFFICE/POSITION NUMBER: **Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
(NERR)/PIN 5133**

LOCATION: **Jackson County/Moss Point, Mississippi**

RECRUITMENT DATES: **05.15.2014 – 06.14.2014**

PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES: This is a senior level scientific position with responsibility for providing expertise to the Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. The position will include responsibilities relating to the continuation of a Sentinel Site monitoring program at the Reserve including management of surface elevation tables, establishment of emergent marsh and ecotonal monitoring, and collection of other data relevant to the impacts of climate and sea level change on Reserve habitats. Duties also include coordinating study design and sampling protocols for various groups of organisms including submerged aquatic vegetation and estuarine fishes, and geophysical characteristics of the estuary. Duties also include managing and analyzing data, writing reports and publications and providing data to various stakeholders. Activities will be closely coordinated with the Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and other partners, consistent with the goals and objectives of the DMR, NOAA and Reserve. Small boat operating skills and experience is desirable. Information technology skills should include proficiency in word processing, database management, and familiarity with Geographic Information Systems.

The ability to operate boats, automobiles, UTV's, GPS Units, various field sampling and laboratory monitoring equipment, and basic maintenance skills are needed. Considerable outside work is involved with this position, often under extreme weather conditions, including extremes of heat, cold, wind and rain. Loud noise may be associated with operation of equipment. This position will not directly supervise employees; however this employee may coordinate the field activities of NERR staff and volunteers within the scope of this project. The position requires a fairly fit individual that can endure the rigors of physically challenging tasks often performed in harsh weather conditions. This position will be supervised by the NERR Stewardship Coordinator.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES: The ideal candidate should have a strong educational background in coastal ecology and demonstrated working knowledge of GIS and GPS concepts, data management, and relevant statistical methods. Knowledge and experience using ArcGIS software and differential GPS equipment is desirable. The successful candidate should have a working knowledge of: coastal Mississippi flora and fauna; accepted restoration practices and techniques, resource monitoring procedures and basic scientific principles. The best suited candidate should have knowledge of coastal waters; experience with habitat mapping of coastal and wetland ecosystems; experience with GPS field surveys particularly using Trimble equipment; project development and management experience; the ability to synthesize, interpret, and communicate scientific information; a working knowledge of current trends and best practices in coastal resource management; and be skilled in writing concise and accurate technical reports with all related documentation. The incumbent must also possess good verbal and written communication skills, be able to appropriately interact with a wide variety of people, including other staff and partners, and have the ability to exercise considerable judgment and discretion. The ideal candidate should demonstrate the ability to implement multiple project tasks simultaneously and ability to work effectively with others. Candidates selected for interviews will be asked to provide a writing sample, preferably in the form of a peer-reviewed scientific publication.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

A Master's Degree from an accredited four-year college or university in biology, marine science, land use planning, coastal management, environmental policy, botany, geology, geography, ecology, environmental science, chemistry, forestry, wildlife management/biology, or a related field.

AND

One (1) year experience related to the described duties.

OR

A Bachelor's Degree from an accredited four-year college or university in biology, marine science, coastal management, environmental policy, botany, geology, geography, ecology, environmental science, chemistry, forestry, wildlife management/biology, or a related field.

AND

Two (2) years experience related to the described duties.

SUBSTITUTION STATEMENT: Related education and related experience may be substituted on an equal basis.

SPECIAL QUALIFICATION: Master's or Bachelor's degree must be in biology, marine science, coastal management, environmental policy, botany, geology, geography, ecology, environmental science, chemistry, forestry, wildlife management/biology, or a related field.

NOTE: This is a time-limited position funded with federal funds. Continuation of the position is dependent upon continuation of the federal funds.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is an equal opportunity employer and will fill positions without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex age, marital status, or handicap.