The Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) investigates and documents the biological resources of Illinois and other areas, and acquires and provides natural history information that can be used to promote the common understanding, conservation, and management of these resources. INHS is part of the Prairie Research Institute (PRI) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which is centrally located between Chicago, St. Louis, and Indianapolis. Learn more at go.illinois.edu/PRIjobs.

The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer. Minorities, women, veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. For more information, visit http://go.illinois.edu/EEO. To learn more about the University's commitment to diversity, please visit http://www.inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu

INHS is seeking an **Assistant Scientist, Large River Fisheries Ecology** (up to two, depending on applicant pool and programmatic need) to develop, direct, and conduct research activities focused on issues surrounding the impact, control, and management of bigheaded carp and other potential nuisance or invasive species throughout Illinois Waterway. Research will include enhanced detection of black carp sampled using baited hoop nets set in main channel and side channel habitats of the lower Illinois River. Research will also include assessment of impact of management actions focusing on bigheaded carp within the lower Illinois River via electrofishing in shallow backwaters and off channel habitats. The candidate will also be responsible for summarizing and presenting results for partnering agencies via internal reports and publications as well as oral presentations at meetings and conferences. Candidate will also lead and assist with public outreach and other research as deemed appropriate by supervisor or sponsoring agency. Position will be based at the Illinois River Biological Station in Havana, Illinois.

**Major Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Conduct biological research on Illinois Waterways using multiple types of fishing gear. (pulsed-DC electrofishing, AC electrofishing, netting)
- Collect fish population monitoring data and use the information to develop research projects.
- Coordinate field sampling schedules including; identifying sampling locations, completion of equipment inventory for each trip, Safety inspection of marine craft and electrofishing gear, explaining required sampling techniques to staff, and informing staff of required field data collection necessary to complete project.
- Manage, analyze, and translate research and monitoring data into scientific findings and provide management recommendations to funding agencies, collaborators, and other interested parties.
- Provide recommendations to funding agencies, collaborators, and other interested parties.
- Translate scientific data into reports, peer-reviewed publications, and presentation to be delivered at conferences and professional meetings.
- Work with lay community to engender positive feedback regarding scientific research.
- Coordinate and cooperate with the Survey, PRI, University of Illinois, and other groups
- Attend local, regional, national, and international conferences.
- Represent the Survey, PRI, the University, and other state and federal agencies on professional and interagency committees associated with river ecology and fisheries.
- Represent the Survey, PRI, and UIUC committees.
- Ensure facilities are equipment are properly maintained, grant and contract obligations are fulfilled, and data quality assurance standards are met.
- Perform other duties as needed in order to further the mission and goals of PRI.
- Keep abreast of developments in this discipline.

**Required Qualifications:**

Bachelor’s degree in Biology, Aquatic Ecology, Fisheries, or related field. Alternate degree fields will be considered depending on the nature and depth of the experience at it relates to this position. Bachelor’s degree with a minimum of 5 years of experience or Master’s degree with a minimum of 3 years of experience in standard fish sampling and other sampling techniques important to large river ecology research. Experience with pulsed-DC and or AC boat electrofishing,
fyke and hoop netting, trawling, and other sampling techniques important to large river ecology research. Experience with writing and presenting scientific reports and scientific journal articles that include standard fisheries statistical analyses. Valid driver’s license. Effective communication, personal relations, collaboration, organizational, teamwork, and leadership skills. Demonstrated ability to perform effectively in a diverse and fast-paced work environment consisting of multiple and changing priorities with stringent deadlines, under minimal supervision. Attention to detail, sound judgment, and strong conflict resolution skills. Proficiency in commonly employed software and databases, including Microsoft Office, MS Access, ArcGIS products and statistical software packages. Possess appropriate field and laboratory skills as well as physical skills necessary to carry out work. Must possess strong interpersonal skills and ability to work collaboratively with other scientists, researchers, staff, and clients.

Preferred Qualifications:

Master’s degree in Biology, Aquatic Ecology, Fisheries, or related field. Alternate degree fields will be considered depending on the nature and depth of the experience as it relates to this position. Experience driving 4WD trucks and trailering boats. Experience working on large river systems by boat. Boater’s Safety, MOCC training, First-Aid and CPR training, AFS Certified Fisheries Professional.

Environmental Demands: Overnight travel may be necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of this position. Will require working in adverse field conditions (heat, humidity, biting insects, cold, etc.), travel (including driving to and from research sites) throughout the state of Illinois; lift and carry equipment weighing up to 50 pounds. The work of this position also takes place in an office setting. The work is sedentary and involves remaining in a stationary position for extended periods of time working at a computer, using a keyboard and mouse, and using repetitive hand motions. Must be able to swim.

Proposed Start Date: Negotiable

Salary: Competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Appointment Status: This is a regular full-time 12-month academic professional appointment, renewable annually based upon satisfactory progress in the position and continued funding. Eligible for full University benefits package as well as generous vacation and sick leave packages.

To Apply: Applications must be received by February 7, 2019. Applicants may be interviewed and hiring decisions may be made prior to the closing date. Please visit http://jobs.illinois.edu to complete an online profile and to upload 1) a cover letter that clearly articulates how your qualifications and experience make you a viable candidate for this position and should address the qualifications listed above, 2) a résumé/CV, and 3) the names and contact information (including e-mail addresses) of three professional references. All requested information/documentation must be submitted for applications to be considered. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

For further information, please contact Amber Hall, Human Resources, Prairie Research Institute at amberh@illinois.edu or 217-300-4080.

For technical inquiries regarding this position, please contact Levi Solomon at soloml@illinois.edu.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer.