

**2022 Research Assistant
A Partnership with Ontario Power Generation
and Kleinschmidt Associates
Lake Sturgeon and American Eel Research on the Ottawa River**

Posting Expiration Date: 3/31/2022

POSITION OVERVIEW

The First Nation Research Assistant will assist with ongoing studies of two endangered species, namely, lake sturgeon and American eel, on the Ottawa River. Work will occur in the vicinity of Chenaux Generating Station (GS), located near Renfrew, Ontario, and Chats Falls GS, near Arnprior, Ontario. Work will also occur during several weeks at Des Joachims GS, located west of Deep River, Ontario and the Otto Holden GS, near Mattawa, Ontario.

The First Nation Research Assistant will participate in field research towards the ongoing study of lake sturgeon and American eel in the vicinity of the generating stations listed above. Activities will include:

- Data collection to better understand the abundance and distribution of lake sturgeon, particularly juvenile lake sturgeon.
- Data collection to understand the abundance, distribution, and outmigration timing of American eel.

This position will report directly to the Project Manager with Kleinschmidt Associates (KA).

DURATION OF CONTRACT AND WORKLOAD EXPECTATIONS

The anticipated duration of this contract will be from late May through late September or early October 2022, or as deemed appropriate by the Kleinschmidt Project Manager. Consideration will be given to post-secondary students returning to academic studies in September 2022, and the contract period will be adjusted accordingly.

The workload will not be evenly distributed throughout the contract period. The hours of employment are anticipated to be extensive (40+) during at least three weeks per month during June, July, August, and September. Some weeks may require work during only one or two work days. Hours of employment will include both regular day-time business hours as well as evenings (after 1700 hrs). The regular work week will be from Monday through Friday, but will also include periods from Friday night through to Monday morning, as required. Overnight travel may be required, and the employer will cover associated expenses as appropriate. Depending on the Research Assistant's home location, this may include staying in hotels during several nights per week, an expense which will be covered by the employer. Work may occur during inclement weather conditions (i.e. rain or heat). The successful candidate will be required to provide his/her own transportation to the work site(s) in the Renfrew/Arnprior area.

GENERAL DUTIES

1. Adherence to all safety procedures
2. Data compilation and communications
3. Assist in deploying and retrieving fish sampling gear
4. Recording of biological and environmental data related to stated duties
5. Maintain daily field logs outlining work schedule and tasks including days and period worked per week
6. Prepare and submit appropriate field logs and data sheets for review as requested
7. Perform other duties as required

SPECIFIC DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DELIVERABLES

Specific duties, responsibilities and deliverables may include, but not be limited to, assistance with the following activities:

For Lake Sturgeon

1. Activities at Chenaux and Chats Falls Generating Stations

- a) **Weekly Tailwater Surveys:** One day per week at the tailwater of each GS from June through September. Search for, collect and process any injured or dead fish during the systematic surveys.
- b) **Water Quality Monitoring:** Deployment, maintenance, and retrieval of water temperature monitors to record water temperatures in the vicinity of the generating stations beginning in June.
- c) **Lake Sturgeon Monitoring:** Abundance and distribution study effort to collect adult and juvenile lake sturgeon

2. Activities at Des Joachims GS and Otto Holden GS

- a) **Water Quality Monitoring:** Deployment, maintenance, and retrieval of water temperature monitors to record water temperatures in the vicinity of the generating stations beginning in June.
- b) **Lake Sturgeon Monitoring:** Abundance and distribution study efforts. Studies may include gill netting adult and juvenile lake sturgeon, and/or studies to collect larval lake sturgeon.

For American eel

1. Activities at Chenaux and Chats Falls Generating Stations

- a) **Weekly Tailwater Surveys:** One day per week at the tailwater of each GS from June through September. Search for, collect and process any injured or dead fish during the systematic surveys.
- b) **Trap Netting:** Week-long events. Multiple events in June, July, August and September. Additional sampling may occur during late May, depending on environmental conditions. Set nets overnight, and process captured fish at least once per day.
- c) **Eel Transport:** Transport of any large eels collected to the lower Ottawa River.

REQUIREMENTS/EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE/SKILL TRAINING

- This position is open to qualified applicants of First Nation descent
- Minimum high school diploma with preference for candidates with experience and training in wildlife, fisheries, or resource management
- Strong interest in gaining experience in wildlife conservation and management
- Capable of working outdoors in all weather conditions and during non-business hours
- Physically able to lift weights up to 20 kgs
- Ability to adapt to changing work schedules
- A valid Ontario driver's license, with a clear driving record
- Ability to work from a boat on a large waterway
- Ability to work as an integrated team member, follow procedures, and
- Pleasure Craft Operators Card and proficient watercraft operation skills
- First Aid Certification is an asset
- Basic computer skills such as Microsoft Office (word and excel) and GIS skills are considered an asset
- Adherence to all safety procedures and guidelines, including those pertaining to Covid-19.

SALARY RANGE

Salary will be commensurate with experience and education.

Please send resume to Jared Porter (Jared.Porter@KleinschmidtGroup.com)