



Job Posting

Aquatic Invasive Species Manager

About the Catskill Center

The Catskill Center preserves and enriches the environmental, economic and cultural well-being of the Catskill region through collaboration, inspiration and stewardship. We believe that the vitality and prosperity of the Catskills depends on robust collaboration, thriving local communities and the wise stewardship of our natural resources.

The Catskill Center serves as the host organization for the Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP), one of eight Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISMs) in New York. The mission of CRISP is to promote education, prevention, early detection and control of invasive species to limit their impact on the ecosystems and economies of the Catskills. CRISP is administered under a five-year contract (2022-2026) with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) with financial support from the New York State Environmental Protection Fund.

To learn more, visit www.catskillcenter.org.

Position Description

The Aquatic Invasive Species Manager is a lead member of the CRISP team who works to protect the CRISP region from the impact of invasive species. This individual leads aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention and management efforts and works with partners, volunteers, and subcontractors, providing technical expertise and support. The AIS Manager also supervises a seasonal Aquatic Strike Team.

The AIS Manager plans and directs an AIS management program to ensure efforts are strategic, addresses critical threats of AIS to natural systems, and helps prevent the spread of invasives through education and partnership-building. The AIS Manager develops and disseminates metrics to support implementation of conservation strategies and secures public and private support for conservation priorities.

This is a full-time position based out of the Catskill Center's main headquarters in Arkville, NY, with remote work opportunities. Frequent regional travel and outdoor work during the growing season is required. This position requires indoor computer-based work, data collection and entry, and outdoor physical labor, including regular work in canoes on lakes. Field work requires comfort with and the ability to remain outdoors without cellular service for up to 8 hours.

Job Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the CRISP Director, the Aquatic Invasive Species Manager will:

- Implement strategic prevention, early-detection, management, and monitoring activities for priority aquatic invasive species and infestations; maintain detailed and organized records.
- Lead CRISP AIS initiatives, working with staff, Partners, lake associations, conservation organizations, researchers, and government officials across the Catskills region.
- Procure all permits necessary to perform management work.
- Lead fieldwork focused on AIS with staff, subcontractors, and volunteers across the CRISP region. Follow safety protocols and maintain relevant field equipment.
- Coordinate the collection and reporting of invasive species surveys, species occurrence, and treatments into iMapInvasives by strike team, contractors, volunteers, and Partners.
- Evaluate status of AIS and effectiveness of management efforts and seek innovative approaches to predict aquatic waterbody vulnerability to AIS.
- Write reports and ensures timely submission, analysis, and publication of data.
- Develop AIS training and volunteer opportunities; attend and/or present at various invasive species workshops, conferences and training sessions; respond to public inquiries about AIS.
- Provide PRISM updates, as needed, during monthly New York State PRISM calls.
- Perform tasks with minimal supervision and make independent decisions based on analysis, experience and judgment.
- Develop metrics and collaborate on reports to comply with contract and grant requirements.

Required Qualifications

Applicants must have a valid driver's license, access to a reliable vehicle, be willing and able to pass a background check, and be vaccinated for covid-19 prior to beginning employment. Additional requirements include:

- Bachelor's degree and 2 years' experience in natural resource management with a focus on aquatic invasive species or similar field, or equivalent combination of education and experience
- Demonstrated project management skills and ability to work both collaboratively and independently
- Experience identifying aquatic invasive species
- Proficiency with software applications such as Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- Experience with Geographic Information Systems and field data collection techniques

Strong candidates will also have the following qualifications:

- Experience managing natural systems
- Experience managing staff, contractors, or volunteers

Compensation

Starting salary \$41,000-\$48,000, based on experience, and comprehensive benefits package including generous paid leave, retirement, and health plan benefits.

Application

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Please send application package, including cover letter, resume, and contact information for three professional references to jobs@catskillcenter.org.

The Catskill Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.