M.S. Assistantship on the Development of Fish Passage Criteria for Small-Bodied Fishes

Position or Title:  M.S. Graduate Assistantship in fish physiological ecology.

Location:  Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO.

Project Background:  The CSU Fish Physiological Ecology Laboratory has developed a variable-geometry rock-ramp fishway that has proved very useful for measuring the effects of various fishway design parameters on the passage success of small-bodied fishes.  The fishway has been used to successfully study the effects of fishway slope and surface texture on the passage success of three representative species of fishes from the Great Plains.  We are now expanding this work to other fish species, including those from the Rio Grande River drainage and the intermountain region.

Responsibilities:  The student will participate in a 2.5 – 3 year study funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service evaluating how fishway design parameters, particularly slope, affect the passage success of a suite of five species of native small-bodied fishes, including two species from the Great Plains, two species from the Rio Grande drainage, and one species with a broad intermountain and northern Great Plains distribution.

Qualifications:  Required - B.S. degree in fisheries, aquatic ecology, biology, or related field; cumulative undergraduate GPA ≥ 3.0; strong writing, analytical, and presentation skills; background in fisheries biology, fisheries management, or fisheries conservation.

Desired - experience collecting fish on streams and rivers; experience with PIT tag systems and data analyses; experience with the care and maintenance of wild fish under laboratory conditions; experience with hydraulic measurements and concepts; interest in pursuing a career in fisheries conservation or fisheries management.

Salary:  Research and teaching assistantships provide annual stipends and tuition.

Closing Date:  Until filled.  Applications will be reviewed beginning 5/1/2021.

Start Date:  Summer 2021

To Apply:  Please send unofficial copies of transcripts, names of 3 references, CV, and a letter of application to Dr. Christopher Myrick at the email address below.  Applications will be reviewed beginning 5/1/2021.

Contact/Email:

For more information, please contact

Dr. Christopher Myrick
email:  chris.myrick@colostate.edu
Web:  http://warnercnr.colostate.edu/fish-physiological-ecology-lab
For more information on the graduate program in FWCB see: