

**Postgraduate Research Participation Program
National Center for Environmental Assessment
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cincinnati, Ohio**

Project # EPA-NCEA 2008-01

*Causal Analysis/Diagnosis Decision Information System (CADDIS):
Helping Scientists Identify the Causes of Biological Impairments*

A research project training opportunity is available with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Project Description: Under the guidance of a research mentor and other EPA investigators, the participant will contribute to the Causal Analysis/Diagnosis Decision Information System (CADDIS, www.epa.gov/caddis). CADDIS is a knowledge base with decision-support tools that enables environmental managers to determine the probable causes of biological impairments in aquatic systems. The research participant will join EPA scientists in developing methods for integrating, deriving, and synthesizing ecological information for the purpose of understanding and identifying causes of ecological effects and degradation of aquatic systems.

Qualifications: Applicants should have received a master's or doctorate degree in ecology or other appropriate scientific field within four years of the desired starting date. Knowledge of quantitative population and community aquatic ecology, landscape ecology, specific experience with stream ecology and experience with linking environmental stressors and stressor sources to ecological effects is desired. Programming skills and knowledge of web-based information and decision-support tools is helpful.

The participant will be selected based on research interests and qualifications, recommendations, compatibility of background and interests with the CADDIS team, academic records and a pre-appointment interview with EPA staff. Limited preappointment travel, inbound travel, and moving expenses may be reimbursed according to established policies.

The program is open to all qualified individuals without regard to race, sex, religion, color, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, or status as a Vietnam era or disabled veteran. U.S. citizenship or lawful permanent resident status is preferred (but can also hold an appropriate visa status, however, an H1B visa is not appropriate).

The appointment will be for one year and may be renewed upon recommendation of EPA and the availability of funding. This appointment will be served in Cincinnati, Ohio. ***The participant does not become an EPA employee.***

Stipend and Length of Appointment: The appointment will be full-time for one-year and may be renewed for up to two additional years depending of funding. The annual stipend will range from \$45,500-\$57,000 depending on degree and experience.

For technical questions about this program please contact Dr. Pat Shaw-Allen at shaw-allen.patricia@epa.gov.

The Postgraduate Research Participation Program for EPA/NCEA is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE). *Please reference Project # EPA-NCEA 2008-01 when calling or writing for information.* For additional information and application material contact: Internship Program – EPA/NCEA, Attn: Betty Bowling - MS 36, ORISE, P.O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831 Phone: (865) 576-8503 Fax: (865) 241-5219 e-mail: betty.bowling@ornl.gov

An application can be found at <http://www.ornl.gov/orise/edu/EPA/app-gugrgpd.pdf>.