

TRI- STATE STAFFING CONTRACT POSITION
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: PLANKTON FIELD TECHNICIAN
\$22.00 hourly
April 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026 (estimated)

The Habitat Monitoring Program (Maine Department of Marine Resources, Division of Marine Mammal Research) collects monthly oceanographic and zooplankton data throughout the Gulf of Maine to inform the conservation and management of the endangered North Atlantic right whale, focusing on habitat and prey related research.

JOB DESCRIPTION: Tri-State Staffing seeks one part-time contracted position to conduct CTD casts and zooplankton net tows during the 2026 survey season in offshore waters (10-75 miles) in the Gulf of Maine. This position will be responsible for leading the deployment of CTD casts and zooplankton net tows at each plankton station. The position will be responsible for filtering water for chlorophyll, nutrients, and lipid samples and preserving samples from the zooplankton nets, as well as ensuring accurate data collection, thorough and consistent field documentation, and equipment maintenance and calibration. Between survey trips, the position may be asked to perform laboratory work such as sample maintenance, data QA/QC, and sample analyses. This position will be based at the ME DMR West Boothbay Harbor lab with field work also out of Bar Harbor, ME. To start, this position requires one consecutive week (~40 hrs) a month, with the potential for additional hours. Exact dates each month will be scheduled 2-3 months ahead of time and may occasionally include weekends.

REQUIREMENTS

- At least two years of experience and/or education in laboratory or field-based science; must be able to lift 50 lbs.
- Ability to follow written procedures, keep detailed records, check work carefully, and recognize errors or inconsistencies.
- Ability to work independently, manage time, and complete tasks with minimal supervision.
- The successful candidate must have a valid driver's license

PREFERRED EXPERIENCE

- Knowledge of and experience with oceanographic equipment and data collection
- Vessel-based experience, especially in offshore environments
- Knowledge of biological oceanography, marine science, marine ecology, or similar competencies that relate to the tasks and descriptions above

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Please submit your resume, contact information for two potential references, and a brief cover letter outlining your interest and starting availability (open until filled) via:

1. Email: recruiter@tristatestaffing.com with the subject line of DMR – Plankton Field Technician
2. Mail: Tri-State Staffing, Inc. Attn: DMR – Plankton Field Technician, PO Box 2182, Augusta, ME 04338-2182

If you have any questions regarding the position, please contact Dr. Amy Wyeth at the Department of Marine Resources at amy.wyeth@maine.gov or 207-350-6215.