Lake Superior Estuarine Research Reserve Internships for Native American Students

**Forested Wetland Restoration Job Description:**
The Lake Superior National Estuarine Research Reserve (Reserve) has a position available to support a project addressing the impacts of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in the upper St. Louis River Estuary, the traditional and current homeland of Anishinaabe Ojibwe and other Indigenous peoples before them. The Reserve will be coordinating invasive species removal and native tree plantings under stands of black ash affected by EAB at five islands and wetland sites in the upper St. Louis River Estuary. Maintaining these islands as forest is vital to preventing erosion and protecting three bays where manoomin (wild rice) restoration has been occurring since 2015. This student will have the opportunity to design a planting plan to determine where different replacement tree species should be planted within each site. Participation in regular site assessments and use of past monitoring data will help accomplish this goal. The primary mentor for this project will be the Reserve Stewardship Coordinator, but the student will also have opportunities to work with other partners on the project including Fond du Lac Resource Management, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and WisCorps. **Students interested in natural resource management and restoration, field experiences in wetland environments, invasive species, and/or ArcGIS may benefit from this position.**

**Indigenous Knowledge and Co-management in the National Estuarine Research Reserves Job Description:**
The National Estuarine Research Reserves are a system of 30 programs focused on estuaries around the country led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and dedicated to research, education, outreach, and stewardship. In 2021, staff within the Reserve system formed an Indigenous Knowledge and Resource Management working group. This team works to address social and environmental justice in the Reserve system by centering, engaging, and learning from Tribal Nations, Indigenous peoples, and local communities to facilitate meaningful co-management of coastal lands and waters. This student will support the Indigenous Knowledge team by sourcing, compiling, and sharing resources and examples from research and other federal programs, analyzing documents foundational to the Reserve system and creating recommendations (with support of the working group) to integrate Indigenous knowledge and co-management into the operations of the NERRS. Lake Superior Reserve director Deanna Erickson co-leads the Indigenous Knowledge team and will be the primary mentor for this project. **Students interested in environmental justice, policy, Indigenous sovereignty, co-management of land and water, and strategic planning may benefit from this position.**

Optional housing is available on the UW-Superior campus!