great lakes observing system

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Posting Closed: 12/21/2018 or until filled

DATA COORDINATOR

The Great Lakes Observing System (GLOS) is searching for a self-motivated, detail-oriented individual with expertise working with bathymetric sonar, acoustic backscatter, and other related data to serve as the Data Coordinator out of our offices in Ann Arbor, MI. This is a full-time position, available for 2 years, with the opportunity to extend longer as additional funding opportunities allow. The Data Coordinator will report to the Executive Director.

GLOS is a 501c3 non-profit organization established to support data collection, data management, and data sharing in the Great Lakes. GLOS is one of 11 regional nodes of a U.S. federal program, the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). IOOS is managed through NOAA, but made up of a partnership of 17 federal agencies with a mission to coordinate data on the oceans, coasts and Great Lakes.

GLOS has entered into a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey to support a regional interagency effort to harmonize the collection, processing, and sharing of continuous high-resolution maps of Great Lakes bathymetry, sonar reflectance, and other derived data products. The effort is organized under an ad hoc coordinating body called the Great Lakes Bottom Mapping Workgroup (BMW). The BMW was first convened in May 2016 with an initial response of over one hundred individuals from more than 60 federal, state, tribal, university, and non-governmental organizations from the United States and Canada.

The Data Coordinator will be tasked to coordinate with data providers to inventory and aggregate available data on lake bathymetry and bottom habitat variation; conduct a regional data inventory and needs assessment; coordinate the drafting of lake floor mapping standards for the Great Lakes, and assist in building the data infrastructure needed to discover, archive, and serve data to the public. The position may also be extended to support coordination needs around other types of data as funding opportunities arise.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conduct quarterly meetings of the BMW steering committee;
- Conduct an annual meeting of all BMW members by webinar;
- Coordinate with national initiatives including the Integrated Ocean and Coastal Mapping program, 3D Nation, the National Coastal Mapping Program, the Coastal National Elevation Dataset, and others;
- Establish a web presence for the BMW;
- Publish a bi-annual newsletter about regional bottom mapping events and activities;
- Conduct a regional data inventory resulting in a data catalogue that makes new datasets discoverable;
- Systematically assess end user needs for bathymetry and/or benthic habitat data by coordinating with regional bodies such as the Great Lakes Fishery Commission;
- Synthesize available data and needs into recommendations for new data acquisitions;
- Convene an expert subgroup to formalize technical standards for bathymetry and backscatter data collection for habitat mapping purposes;
- Create a data archive and clearinghouse that incorporates routines for data discovery, quality control, and access for multiple data types.

REQUIRED EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor of Science degree in oceanography, marine technology, environmental science, GIS, or related field;

- 2+years of experience working with ArcGIS and Geospatial data. Must have knowledge and experience working with ESRI software and bathymetry associated data formats;
- Excellent written and oral communication and presentation skills, including ease in communicating complex concepts in a clear, effective manner for a general audience.
- Familiarity with hardware and software and workflows used to collect and process multi-beam echosounder, side-scan sonar, interferometric sonar, and other types of echosounder data be some travel associated with this position.
- Estimate 4-5 trips per year throughout the Great Lakes region (including Canada). A valid passport is required.
- Writing and managing metadata.

PREFERRED EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

- M.Sc. degree in oceanography, coastal geomorphology, or related field;
- Familiarity with hardware and software and workflows used to collect and process multi-beam echosounder, side-scan sonar, interferometric sonar, and other types of echosounder data;
- Familiarity with geospatial standards including Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard (CMECS), ISO Metadata reporting standards, and IHO Standards for Hydrographic Surveys;
- Developing methods and procedures to improve stewardship of GIS data and for displaying and evaluating geographic data;
- Relational database design and programming;
- Creative thinking and desire to contribute to a fun and inspired office environment.

TO APPLY

Please submit cover letter, resume and three references to Kelli Paige at kpaige@glos.us by COB December 21, 2018. Salary is commensurate with education and experience.