



Invasive Aquatics Survey & Dive Crew

7 Lakes Alliance | Belgrade Lakes Region, Maine

7 Lakes Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters of Maine's Belgrade Lakes Region. We are seeking energetic, motivated individuals to join our Invasive Aquatics Survey & Dive Crew for the 2026 field season.

Position Overview: Invasive Aquatics Crew Members play a critical role in protecting lake ecosystems by locating, identifying, and removing invasive aquatic plants that threaten native species, water quality, and recreation. This is a physically demanding, outdoor position that involves extensive time on and under the water in varying weather conditions. Ideal candidates are comfortable operating paddlecraft, working as part of a close-knit team, and spending long days diving or surveying in lakes and streams. Coursework or experience in biology, environmental science, conservation, or related fields is strongly preferred. Due to the hazardous nature of the work, applicants must be 18 years or older. SCUBA certification is preferred, though training may be provided for exceptional candidates.

Responsibilities:

- Survey lakes and streams for invasive aquatic plants using kayak, motorboat, snorkel, and SCUBA (*All crew members receive paid aquatic plant identification training*).
- Remove submersed invasive aquatic plants by hand and via diver-assisted suction harvesting (*SCUBA certification required for removal work*).
- Participate in volunteer-powered group paddles and outreach events.
- Educate lake users and community members about invasive aquatic plants and prevention strategies.
- Operate and maintain small engines and equipment (motorboats, trucks, surface-supplied air systems).
- Assist with citizen science and research projects related to invasive aquatics.

Qualifications:

- SCUBA certification preferred (PADI, NAUI, or equivalent).
- Interest in natural sciences, conservation, or environmental work.
- Ability to perform vigorous manual labor for up to 10 hours per day outdoors in heat, rain, and wind.
- Comfortable around various wildlife (e.g. water snakes, snapping turtles, and leeches).
- Strong teamwork skills and a positive attitude.
- Ability to tread water for extended periods and dive up to 20 ft depth.
- Experience with paddlecraft and small motorized vessels.
- Valid driver's license and ability to commute daily to the Belgrade Lakes Region.
- Comfortable learning new field applications (e.g., iNaturalist, Survey123)

- Pay: \$17–\$18/hour, based on experience
- Schedule: Seasonal, full-time (40 hours/week)
- Dates: June 1 – August 27, with potential part-time work through October

To apply, please send one PDF including a resume, cover letter, and three references to: sharon.mann@7lakesalliance.org