

POST DOCTORAL POSITION WITH LONG POINT WATERFOWL

We are seeking a Post Doctoral Researcher to study the potential impacts of offshore wind turbines on the lower Great Lakes. This will be a 2 year position with potential for eventual promotion to level of Waterfowl Scientist within the organization.

The wind power industry is now expanding at a rapid rate within Ontario. As a result, there are relatively few policies or regulations regarding wind farm configuration and placement, especially with respect to minimizing impacts on wildlife and their habitats. Recently, wind project developers have shown interest in potentially locating wind farms in numerous offshore areas within lakes Ontario, Erie, and St. Clair. Many of these locales are near or within areas that are extremely important for migrant and over-wintering waterfowl. Unfortunately, there are currently no, or very limited, data on offshore abundances, distributions and movements of waterfowl (especially seaducks) available to biologists to make pre-construction recommendations as to where wind farm development may least impact waterfowl. Thus, obtaining data on these major information gaps prior to wind farm construction will greatly minimize possible impacts on waterfowl (and other wildlife species) using the lower Great Lakes.

The objectives of this study will be further developed and refined by the post-doctoral researcher. The broad objectives we propose for this study will be to determine:

- 1) The present-day abundance and spatial distribution of sea ducks and other waterfowl using nearshore and offshore areas of the lower Great Lakes. Initially we propose that research efforts be concentrated on Lake Erie but that efforts eventually expand to lakes Ontario and St. Clair.
- 2) Spatial and temporal patterns in habitat use and movements of sea ducks and other waterfowl.

The Post Doctoral Researcher will also have the opportunity to collaborate on other Long Point Waterfowl student and non-student research projects and will have the opportunity to collaborate (through adjunct status, teaching, etc) at the University of Western Ontario. This position will be located at the Long Point Waterfowl headquarters in Port Rowan, Ontario.

Please send transcripts, CV, reference letters and a letter of intent/interest to Dr. Scott Petrie, Long Point Waterfowl, P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, ON, N0E 1M0. Ph 519-586-3531, ext 118, spetrie@bsc-eoc.org.