

Research Associate (Environmental DNA Lab Data Analyst)  
Auburn University

Direct Link: <https://www.AcademicKeys.com/r?job=262419>

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Posted Sep. 11, 2025, set to expire Jan. 11, 2026

<b>Job Title</b>	Research Associate (Environmental DNA Lab Data Analyst)
<b>Department</b>	Schl Fisheries Aquac Aquat Sci
<b>Institution</b>	Auburn University Auburn, Alabama
<b>Date Posted</b>	Sep. 11, 2025
<b>Application Deadline</b>	Open until filled
<b>Position Start Date</b>	Available immediately
<b>Job Categories</b>	Research Scientist/Associate
<b>Academic Field(s)</b>	Environmental Sciences/Ecology/Forestry
<b>Job Website</b>	<a href="https://www.auemployment.com/postings/55937">https://www.auemployment.com/postings/55937</a>

**Apply By Email**

**Job Description**

### Job Summary

The School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences at Auburn University is seeking a Research Associate for a full-time position in the environmental DNA (eDNA) lab operated by Dr. Jessica Rieder. This position focuses on analyzing eDNA data, particularly for invasive species surveillance as part of the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) Framework and the Fish and Wildlife Service's Branch of Hatchery Operations and Applied Science (Branch). This is a full-time, soft-money position that is funded for at least one year, with the potential for renewal. The primary focus of this position is to assist Auburn and federal biologists in analyzing eDNA data. The project collaborates with the eDNA genetic lab at Auburn and other federal labs to implement an eDNA invasive species monitoring as part of the DOI's EDRR Framework.

### Essential Functions

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- Analyze diverse 'omic datasets, including quantitative PCR (qPCR), metabarcoding, and potentially metagenomics, with a solid understanding of statistical methods for interpreting population genetic and sequence data.
- Design, implement, and maintain bioinformatics pipelines using Python and/or R, incorporating Git version control and Unix/Linux command-line tools for efficient data processing and workflow management.
- Provide data support to MLN and QA/QC data entry for the existing EDRR eDNA Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) built using multiple software platforms, including ArcGIS Experience Builder, Excel, and Survey123.
- Support the development and regular revision of Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), including annual protocol updates for MLN operations.
- Maintain detailed records and consistently follow established SOPs.
- Serve as the primary liaison for data management and analysis among the LIMS project team, the Branch, Molecular Lab Network (including the Surveillance Labs and Implementation Science Support Lab), facilitating communication and coordination.
- Generate project-specific reports, contribute to annual MLN reports, and assist in preparing scientific manuscripts and presentations.
- Work independently and collaboratively within interdisciplinary teams in a dynamic research environment.
- Demonstrate proficiency in Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and perform other duties as needed to support eDNA research and laboratory operations.

Why Work at Auburn?

- **Life-Changing Impact:** Our work changes lives through research, instruction, and outreach, making a lasting impact on our students, our communities, and the world.
- **Culture of Excellence:** We are committed to leveraging our strengths, resources, collaboration, and innovation as a top employer in higher education.
- **We're Here for You:** Auburn offers generous benefits, educational opportunities, and a culture of support and work/life balance.
- **Sweet Home Alabama:** The Auburn/Opelika area offers southern charm, vibrant downtown scenes, top-ranked schools, and easy access to Atlanta, Birmingham, and the Gulf of Mexico beaches.
- **A Place for Everyone:** Auburn is committed to fostering an environment where all faculty, staff, and students are welcomed, valued, respected, and engaged.

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**Contact Information**

Please reference Academickeys in your cover letter when  
applying for or inquiring about this job announcement.

**Contact**

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