**Project Title:** Characterizing Sea Lamprey movements in the Penobscot River

**Project Location:** University of Maine, Orono, ME

**Project Leader:**  Erin Peterson (erin.peterson1@maine.edu)

**Project Time Frame:** June 2021 – August 2021

**Total Hours:** up to 520

**Semester Hour Allocation:** 40 hours per week

The Maine Cooperative (ME Coop.) Fish and Wildlife Research Unit located within the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology at the University of Maine provides student opportunities to conduct research in various topics including wildlife ecology and biology, conservation biology, and wildlife management. As part of the ME Cooperative Unit overseen by Joseph Zydlewski, the intern will be responsible for detailed mobile tracking of sea lamprey in the vicinity of Milford Dam in the Penobscot River in support of an ongoing study.  This work contributes to an effort to determine the direction from which sea lamprey approach the Milford Dam and how this influences their ability to efficiently find and use fish passage.

On-the-ground tracking will provide detailed real-time information about lamprey movements and also aid in interpretation of data collected from stationary radio receivers.  There may also be opportunities to conduct mobile tracking beyond Milford Dam and to track other fishes, such as American Shad.  Laboratory work and data analysis can also be incorporated into the internship. All work is contingent on being able to conduct it in a COVID-safe environment and appropriate modifications to the scope of work will be made as appropriate.

Opportunities Include:

* Exposure to a wide range of fisheries topics
* Developing essential and analytical skills
* Working independently with guidance from the Principal Investigators
* Maintaining detailed datasets, conducting data QC/QA, providing the written/graphical summaries of the data
* Interaction with the larger University research community