

Mountain Lake Food Web Ecology Internship



Left: Emerald Lake, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park. Top right: Golden trout. Bottom right: Caddisfly cases at Cottonwood Lake, John Muir Wilderness. Image credit: Christine Parisek

The Rypel Lab (<https://sites.google.com/view/rypel-lab/home>) is looking for advanced undergraduates to take part in a project on the food web ecology of mountain lakes. During the course of the internship, the student will be able to learn the steps and preparation processes required to analyze unique research sample types for aquatic food web and stable isotope work. The internship will chiefly consist of: identifying, counting, and recording aquatic and terrestrial insect and plant taxa, morphospecies sorting zooplankton, and preparing samples for isotope analysis.

Some previous experience with or interest in zooplankton, aquatic macroinvertebrates, aquatic plants, terrestrial insects, terrestrial plants, and/or stable isotope work is desired, though training on lab procedures and identifying Sierra Nevada taxa will be provided. The student should feel comfortable with self-directed and repetitive lab work tasks and be able to demonstrate meticulous attention to detail.

This internship gives students the opportunity to enroll in internship/research credits. Requirements include a 3-9 hour weekly commitment during the Quarter, depending on the number of credit hours requested. If desired, more opportunities for involvement in the Rypel Lab and summer fieldwork in the Sierra Nevada may be possible.

This is a great opportunity to get involved in freshwater research! If interested, please contact Christine Parisek (caparisek@ucdavis.edu) with a short description of your in-person availability, credit requirements, Curriculum vitae (C.V.), and why you're interested in this internship!