



## WCVI Otolith Lab Job Posting

*WCVI Otolith Lab is an indigenous lead biological wet lab based in Port Alberni, contracted through UTG to perform work for Fisheries and Oceans Canada.*

Position: Starting Lab Technician  
Full Time Seasonal Work (37.5HRS/Week)  
\$24.04/HR (Sept-July subject to change)  
Location: Port Alberni, BC.

The Otolith Lab is looking for a friendly, energetic, and motivated individual wishing to learn and work in a laboratory setting. Job entails processing otoliths (ear bones) from salmonoids to determine whether they are of hatchery origin, and from which hatchery.

The position is initially as a trainee, and the successful applicant will receive instruction from the senior technician.

Successful applicants wishing to create a long-term career must complete a RCMP criminal record check, after completing their second season.

Duties will include the following:

- Receiving and logging samples
- Recording sample data on glass microscope slides
- Labeling slides with waterproof labels
- Mounting otoliths on slides
- Dissecting both adult and juvenile fish to extract and collect otoliths
- Submitting/sending results to the Contract Authority
- Preparing sampling equipment (boxes and vials) to return to field

*As experience is gained the following duties will also be learned by the successful applicant:*

- *Grinding otoliths using a precision Buehler grinder*
- *Analysing otoliths using dissecting and compound microscopes*
- *Recording data/results either in a computerized database or on sheets*

**Attributes/Experience:**

Experience working in a *laboratory and/or with microscopes and computers* is desirable; but not essential.

The ability to work closely with other staff members in a *small laboratory setting*, the ability to learn and grasp new ideas and techniques is essential. *Good concentration* is required to carefully grind samples to the precise point where reading is optimized. *Good organisation* is also required to efficiently track samples and avoid any mix-ups in samples and data. An ability to work *quickly* and process a *high volume* of samples is also necessary as experience is gained.

The successful applicant will have the opportunity to learn several skills and become proficient in the processing and analysing of thermal marks - a valuable knowledge in the management and assessment of salmonid stocks throughout the North Pacific.

*Thank you for your interest, however, only candidates selected for an interview, will be contacted.*

Please submit resumes to [otolithlab@gmail.com](mailto:otolithlab@gmail.com) - Attention: Moriah Cootes, Senior Technician  
Hiring process is NOT done through UTG Staff.