



## NY Aquarium 2015 American Eel Survey VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

High School and College Students:

**Interested in gaining hands-on field experience in  
your local ecosystem?**

**Curious about a career in marine conservation?**

**Always wanted to get involved with  
The New York Aquarium?**

*Here's your chance...*



Photo: NYSDEC



Photo: NYSDEC



Julie Larson Maher © WCS



Julie Larson Maher © WCS

**BACKGROUND:** The American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*) is a migratory fish that begins life in the Atlantic Ocean and travels over 1,600 miles to enter brackish and fresh waterways along the North American coast as tiny “glass eel” fish fry each spring. The species is in decline over much of its range, and baseline studies of migrations are crucial for management. The New York Aquarium and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation’s Hudson River Estuary Program are teaming up to research eel migration in our local waterways. Help the NYA learn more about eels in our backyard!

**ABOUT THE EEL PROJECT:** Get down and dirty to save eels! Help the NYA collect valuable information about young eels in south Brooklyn between the months of February and May 2015. Volunteers will check for and measure glass eels at sites along the south Brooklyn coastline. During the survey, juvenile fish are counted, weighed, and released alive, and water monitoring data are recorded. All gear and materials are provided; however, it is up to the volunteer to find transportation to the NYA on their volunteer day. Volunteers must be willing to work outside under variable conditions and work collaboratively within a team of students and other volunteers.

**HOW TO VOLUNTEER:** We are looking for motivated volunteers, ages 15 and up. Volunteers must be able to attend one 3-hour Orientation Workshop (held at the NYA) on Wednesday January 28<sup>th</sup> or Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 from 1pm to 4pm. In addition, volunteers must be able to commit to at least 2 field visits with NYA Education staff during the season. If you’re interested, please complete an online volunteer form by following the eel survey link under Outdoor Programs at [www.nyaquarium.com/nyaeducation](http://www.nyaquarium.com/nyaeducation). Volunteers age 15 - 17 must submit a signed Parent/Guardian Waiver prior to the start date. Any questions? Contact the Volunteer Office by phone at 718-265-3450 or by email at [nyadocent@wcs.org](mailto:nyadocent@wcs.org).