



**The Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge** is seeking volunteer amateur naturalists, birders, botanists, and students in or planning on working in the biological and environmental science fields or relevant clubs and organizations to conduct biological **field surveys** during spring, summer, and fall of 2012.



*Monitoring marsh wrens on a June morning at the Brancheau Unit.*

The Refuge encompasses some of the most valuable Great Lakes coastal habitat for a wide range of flora and fauna. This is an ideal opportunity to **receive basic training and use rigorous standardized biological monitoring techniques and equipment** (using established transects across 16 different units all along western Lake Erie). Major ecological changes are anticipated in this region, elevating the importance of sound ecosystem monitoring from a range of skillsets.



*Finding new invasive species at Gibraltar Bay Unit.*



*Surveying insects at the Gibraltar Wetlands Unit.*

Extensive base-line plant community and associated data exist for transects established by the Refuge, Eastern Michigan University, and the Institute for Geospatial Research and Education. Refuge staff is open to capturing the skills and interests of its volunteers and volunteer organizations in collecting data. A focus will be on plant, herpetological, bird, and insect surveys depending on the interest of the volunteer. ***This data will be used to monitor and develop research on ecosystem response to invasive species management and habitat restoration projects.***

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