



Skagit River System Cooperative

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POSITION VACANCY

Title: Research and Salmon Recovery Field Biologist
FULL TIME/1-YEAR TERM WITH POSSIBILITY OF EXTENSION

Reporting Authority: Senior Research Scientist

Job Description: Provide field leadership for SRSC and its diverse staff in a variety of projects. Specifically, coordinate personnel and plan and execute logistics for fish and habitat field sampling and data collection and compilation in support of Pacific Salmon recovery.

ABOUT SRSC:

Skagit River System Cooperative (SRSC) is currently recruiting a Field Biologist for the 2024 field season. SRSC provides natural resource management services for the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. On behalf of these two sovereign nations, SRSC works to actively improve fisheries management within their usual and accustomed fishing areas. Fisheries management carried out by SRSC includes harvest and hatchery management, research, environmental review, habitat restoration, and a range of other activities. Find out more about us and the important work we are a part of at: www.skagitcoop.org.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

In this position you will lead small groups of natural resource technicians (2-5 people) in implementing SRSC field projects, including planning field logistics, implementing sample and/or data collection field projects, and managing data, with approximate allocation of ~80% field work and 20% office work. You will need to use contract deliverable information, maps, GPS waypoints, weather and hydrologic information, fisheries protocols, safety considerations, and group logistics to plan tasks and destinations for your crew. In the field you will collect and supervise the collection of biological, chemical, and physical habitat samples and/or data. You will conduct and lead others in performing fisheries survey techniques that can include backpack and boat electrofishing, snorkel surveys, fence weir smolt trapping, beach seining, fyke trapping, and spawning ground surveys. You will coordinate and perform the maintenance of equipment including, but not limited to, nets, boats, trailers, vehicles, and other specific field equipment (e.g., electrofishers, drysuits, water quality instruments) used in the performance of assigned tasks. You will perform assigned tasks that involve physical labor from among the following, but not limited to, hiking over uneven terrain in remote wilderness situations, wading in deep mud in

Fisheries and Environmental Services Management for the Sauk-Suiattle and Swinomish Indian Tribes

estuaries and swift flowing streams and rivers with uneven footing, sampling site preparation, carpentry, heavy lifting, hauling, boat operation (8-20' motorized aluminum boats, rowboats, 3 person inflatable pontoon rafts, etc.). In the office you will record, compile, and maintain field records and notes including logbooks, data sheets and electronic data collection equipment, as well as coordinate and perform electronic record dataset quality control. In this position you may assist in the preparation of reports. You will also perform other duties and responsibilities that may be assigned by Biologists, Senior Scientists, Program Directors and/or the SRSC Board.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education: Minimum of a Bachelor's degree in a Natural Resource related field

Experience:

- ❖ Implementation of fisheries and habitat field sampling/survey techniques
- ❖ Use of field equipment in support of fisheries sampling/survey techniques
- ❖ Operation and trailering of small motorized and human-powered boats; flat water experience required; river experience preferred
- ❖ Organization and management of field collected samples and data
- ❖ Familiarity with Pacific Northwest salmon biology and ecosystems preferred
- ❖ Electrofishing certification and experience preferred
- ❖ Experience leading field teams in biological data collection (supervisory experience preferred)
- ❖ Experience working from a boat of any size under adverse weather conditions
- ❖ Experience working in swift water conditions (one year minimum)

Skills and Abilities:

- ❖ Demonstrated good judgment in novel, evolving, and emergency situations in front country and wilderness settings
- ❖ Ability to carry at least 50 lbs. of awkward equipment over uneven terrain for up to 7 miles in a day on a daily basis
- ❖ Willingness to work early morning, daytime, evening, or night shifts as river flows, tides, and seasonal fish behavior require
- ❖ Competence identifying common fishes found in the Skagit River and the Skagit Estuary
- ❖ Ability to wade in swift water conditions and intertidal areas including deltas, beaches and mudflats
- ❖ Willingness to work in harsh environments under various weather conditions
- ❖ Willingness to operate watercraft on the river (whitewater class 2 for jet boat and class 3 for cataraft)
- ❖ Capability of operating a jet boat in the shallow waters of the Skagit Estuary
- ❖ Capability of operating sharp tools and power equipment safely for land clearing or light construction

- ❖ Capability of repairing equipment including electrical devices small motors and boats with marine engines
- ❖ Good oral and written communication skills in person and by phone, text, and email
- ❖ Accurate record keeping ability
- ❖ Proficiency in the use of computers, including MS Office and databases
- ❖ Sensitivity to Native American culture, customs, and traditions
- ❖ Ability to comply with the Drug Free Workplace Act
- ❖ Possession of valid Washington State Driver's License; insurable on SRSC policy

Salary: \$25/hour

Benefits: Upon completion of a 90-day probationary period, benefits including medical, dental, vision insurance, matched retirement contributions, and paid sick leave and annual leave.

Questions: Contact Catherine Austin, Senior Research Scientist, 360-982-1409 or caustin@skagitcoop.org

To obtain an application: Visit the website www.skagitcoop.org *Employment Opportunities* page, or phone 360-466-7228.

Application Deadline: May 2, 2024, 5:00 PM

Required Employment Start Date: June 15, 2024

Send a letter of interest, resume, and completed SRSC Employment Application form to caustin@skagitcoop.org

INDIAN PREFERENCE APPLIES TO THIS RECRUITMENT