

Puget Sound Partnership

our sound, our community, our chance

Monitoring Program Manager

Exempt Recruitment Announcement

Position: Monitoring Program Manager, full time, project position*

Salary: \$6,250-\$7000 per month, DOQ and benefits

Location: Olympia, Washington (until permanent office opens in Tacoma)

Posting Date: July 20, 2009

Closing Date: August 10, 2009

The Puget Sound Partnership is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Monitoring Program Manager. The Monitoring Program Manager for the Puget Sound Partnership will lead the development and implementation of the integrated, coordinated ecosystem monitoring and assessment program for Puget Sound. This position reports to the Science Program Manager of the Puget Sound Partnership as a senior member of the Partnership science program team.

AGENCY PROFILE

The Puget Sound Partnership was established as a state agency by the 2007 Legislature and the Governor to develop and implement an aggressive action agenda for restoring the health of Puget Sound by 2020. The Partnership is a new and dynamic organization charged with taking a collaborative and accountable approach to accomplishing its mission. It relies on the contributions of a variety of entities, including state, local, federal and tribal governments, community and environmental organizations, businesses, watershed and salmon recovery groups. The Partnership's work will require creativity, innovation and a wide variety of tools and approaches to engage the public, track performance and guide progress, disseminate information to stakeholders, manage data and work collaboratively with individuals and groups throughout the region. More information on the Partnership is available at our Web site: <http://www.psp.wa.gov>.

The Puget Sound Action Agenda was developed by and is being implemented and adapted through a unique collaboration between local communities, tribes, federal and state governments, businesses and nonprofit organizations.

POSITION OVERVIEW AND GOALS

This position is responsible for coordinating Partnership staff, program committees, Science Panel, and others' efforts to develop and implement an integrated, coordinated program for monitoring the condition of the Puget Sound ecosystem and the effectiveness of ecosystem recovery programs. The coordinated monitoring and assessment program is a key asset of the Partnership's strategic science program. This position is responsible for facilitating communications among the Partnership's Science Panel and the program's steering committee, technical committee, and work groups.

Development of the coordinated monitoring and assessment program will entail evaluating and suggesting reforms of existing ecosystem monitoring efforts through collaboration with the many entities that have mandates to monitor the ecosystem or that have interests in information developed from monitoring.

**This position is a project position that will continue for 12 months. The potential exists to extend the position into a permanent position.*

PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Incumbents typically perform the level of work described below a majority of the time. The work described below is not intended to be all-inclusive but representative of the level of duties/responsibilities carried out by this position:

- Lead the development and implementation of an integrated, coordinated ecosystem monitoring and assessment program for Puget Sound. This program should address the monitoring needs of the Partnership and those of other entities served by a collaborative approach to ecosystem monitoring in the region.
- Oversee efforts to develop, and obtain peer review of, reports on the status of the Puget Sound ecosystem and scientific findings about the effectiveness of management strategies.
- Facilitate Science Panel, science community, and stakeholder engagement in the development and implementation of a coordinated monitoring program. This includes chairing the program's steering committee, serving as a liaison to the Science Panel, and providing direction to the program's technical committee and work groups.
- Facilitate the collaborative evaluation and re-design of monitoring activities to improve alignment with Partnership and stakeholder needs for information about the status of the ecosystem and the effectiveness of management strategies.
- Facilitate science-policy interactions to ensure that (1) strategic decisions about ecosystem recovery efforts are informed by monitoring program findings and (2) monitoring program design and execution addresses Partnership and stakeholders needs for scientific information.
- Work with the Science Program Manager and Partnership's Performance management staff to incorporate monitoring and scientific information regarding the Sound into the Partnership's performance management framework.
- Contribute to Partnership efforts to develop and adapt the Partnership's strategic science program as described in the Strategic Science Plan (under development in 2009). Including but not limited to providing the monitoring program perspective to efforts to develop and refine:
 - state-of-science syntheses in the Puget Sound science updates (initial publication in April 2010)
 - processes for peer review of science products and programs and the competitive solicitation and award of funds for scientific investigations
 - information management systems to provide access to scientific information, including data and analysis and synthesis products
 - peer networks, technical working groups, and other means of engaging the science community in the Partnership's strategic science program
 - biennial science work plans
- Represent the coordinated ecosystem monitoring program in state, regional, national, and trans-boundary forums, including those related to the Washington Monitoring Forum, Pacific Northwest monitoring coordination, the National Estuary Program, regional and national observing systems initiatives, and Puget Sound-Georgia Basin coordination.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

This position requires knowledge, skills, and abilities in the following areas:

- Experience in managing large-scale scientific environmental monitoring programs.
- Designing and using scientific studies -- implementation, effectiveness, and validation monitoring, modeling, etc. – to guide ecosystem and natural resources management.
- Leading, managing, and completing complex and collaborative projects within a management and public policy context requiring integration of science and policy perspectives.
- High-level skills as a science communicator with scientist, decision makers and the public both orally and in writing.
- Ability to work cooperatively and effectively with a diverse group of agencies, governments and stakeholders.
- Ability to manage budgets, work programs and report preparation.

DESIRABLE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

M.S. or Ph.D. in science discipline relevant to management of ecological systems.

A minimum of 5 years experience working with decision-makers or policy development related to management of ecological systems.

A minimum of 2 years experience in supervising staff and managing programs.

Experience in effectively communicating to senior executives, scientist, agency staff, stakeholders and the public.

Knowledge of natural resource and environmental issues and science related to the recovery of Puget Sound.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Send a letter of interest describing relevant qualifications, a detailed résumé, and names of three professional references with phone numbers.

Jennifer Eberle, Executive Assistant
Puget Sound Partnership
P.O. Box 40900
Olympia, WA 98504-0900

Electronic applications are encouraged (in PDF format). Applications will be screened and only those candidates who most closely meet the desirable education, skills, knowledge, and abilities will be interviewed. E-mail to jennifer.eberle@psp.wa.gov. If you need additional information please call (360) 725-5454 or 800-54-SOUND.

Applications must be received no later than 5 p.m. August 10, 2009. This is a receipt deadline, not a postmark deadline. Electronic applications are encouraged. Applications will be screened and only those candidates who most closely meet the desirable education, skills, knowledge, and abilities will be interviewed. E-mail to jennifer.eberle@psp.wa.gov. If you need additional information please call (360) 725-5441 or 800-54-SOUND.

The Puget Sound Partnership is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Persons of disability needing assistance in the application process, or those needing this job announcement in an alternative format may call (800) 833-6388.