

# Puget Sound Partnership

our sound, our community, our chance

## Science Program Manager

*Exempt Recruitment Announcement*

Position: Science Program Manager, full time

Salary: \$6,250-\$7500 per month, DOQ and benefits

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

Posting Date: July 20, 2009

Closing Date: August 31, 2009

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The Puget Sound Partnership is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Science Program Manager. The Science Program Manager for the Puget Sound Partnership will lead and facilitate the leadership of others in developing and implementing the strategic science program for the Puget Sound Partnership. This position reports to the Deputy Director of the Puget Sound Partnership, supervises the team of Partnership science program staff, and serves on the management team of the Partnership's Executive Director.

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## 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, Science Panel, and others' efforts to develop and implement a strategic science program that guides and provides the science basis for efforts to restore the health of the Puget Sound ecosystem by 2020. This position serves as the liaison between the Executive Director and the Science Panel and facilitates science-policy interactions among Partnership staff and leadership boards. Supervises Partnership science staff, anticipated to be up to four staff. The ideal applicant would have experience in managing complex, scientific planning efforts involving scientists, policy makers and the public.

## 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:

- Work with the Partnership's Science Panel and other leadership to develop and then implement a Strategic Science Program for the Puget Sound Partnership.
- Facilitate Science Panel and other scientist engagement in science-policy interactions to (1) ensure the Partnership's strategic decisions about ecosystem recovery efforts are informed by a synthesis of the best available scientific information and (2) ensure that the Partnership's strategic science program and biennial science work plans develop products that address the Partnership's greatest needs for scientific information.
- Facilitate the coordination of Partnership ecosystem-perspective science program capacities and processes with key program-scale science programs and their advisory bodies, especially the Puget Sound salmon recovery regional implementation technical team, the nearshore science team of Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project, and the cooperative monitoring, evaluation, and research program of the Forest Practices Board.
- Lead the development and adaptation of the Partnership's strategic science program as described in the Strategic Science Plan (under development in 2009). Including but not limited to:
  - Oversee and facilitate staff and others' efforts to develop state-of-science syntheses in the Puget Sound science updates (initial publication in April 2010) and reports of findings about the condition of the Puget Sound ecosystem in biennial State of the Sound reports.
  - Oversee and facilitate staff efforts to develop and implement a coordinated ecosystem monitoring and assessment program.
  - Facilitate Science Panel efforts to develop processes for peer review of science products and programs and the competitive solicitation and awarding of funds for scientific investigations. As appropriate, oversee and facilitate efforts to implement these processes.
  - Collaborate with the Partnership's chief information officer to oversee and facilitate staff efforts to develop and maintain information management systems to provide access to scientific information, including data, analysis and synthesis products.
  - Facilitate the development and Partnership support and use of peer networks, technical working groups, and other means of engaging the science community in the Partnership's strategic science program.
- Work with the Partnership's Performance Manager and staff to incorporate scientific information regarding the Sound into the Partnership's performance management framework.
- Facilitate development of biennial science work plans as a product of the Science Panel that is adopted by the Partnership as an element of the Action Agenda.
- Coordinate the implementation and oversight (e.g., by the Science Panel, science policy advisory groups, the Executive Director's management team) of the Partnership's science activities, including those described in biennial science work plans and elsewhere in the

Action Agenda and accomplished by state and federal funding appropriated for the recovery of the Puget Sound ecosystem.

- Supervise Partnership science staff efforts to implement components of biennial science work plans.
- Manage Partnership budget related to science and monitoring activities undertaken or funded by the Partnership.
- Advise the Executive Director on Puget Sound science and monitoring issues.
- Represent the Partnership and its Strategic Science Program as needed in regional, national, and trans-boundary forums, including those related to the National Estuary Program, ocean observing systems, and Puget Sound Georgia Basin coordination.
- Coordinate with scientists and managers at state Agencies (Ecology, WDFW, etc), Federal Agencies (NOAA, USGS, etc), and Tribes, to help develop science programs that support implementation of the Strategic Science program and the Biennial Science work plan.

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

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

- Designing and using scientific studies – assessments, implementation, effectiveness, and validation monitoring, statistical and mechanistic 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.
- Exceptional skills as a science communicator with scientists, 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 8 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, scientists, 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](mailto: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 31, 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](mailto:jennifer.eberle@psp.wa.gov). If you need additional information please call (360) 725-5444 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.*