



Job Description

California Science Director Posted January 20, 2011

Trout Unlimited (TU) is North America's leading coldwater fisheries conservation organization, dedicated to the conservation, protection and restoration of trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. The organization has more than 140,000 members in 400 chapters across North America. TU's vision is that, by the next generation, trout and salmon will be restored throughout their native range. To accomplish this vision, TU works to protect, reconnect, and restore fish habitat and then sustain this work by building a diverse movement of businesses, people, and communities to support saving trout, salmon, and steelhead.

TU is hiring a California Science Director for its California operations. In this state, TU: (a) is involved in several of the largest western river and salmon restoration projects (the San Joaquin and Klamath Rivers); (b) currently employs seven full-time staff comprised of lawyers, restoration specialists, and organizers all of whom encounter scientific issues; and, (c) has a grassroots membership of about 10,000 and almost 10 local chapters working tirelessly on trout, salmon and steelhead restoration projects. This position would necessarily require working closely and collaboratively with state and federal agencies, landowners, water users, businesses, and stakeholders around the state. This position would manage and develop the science components of an integrated team effort for TU in California. He or she will report to the state director, but will also be a member of TU's Science Staff under the direction of TU's senior scientist.

Job Description

The California Science Director will:

- Serve as a member of a technical advisory committee supporting the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program; and, advocate for the correct and timely implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement, including the restoration of flows and salmon to the river. (This is the principal component of the science director position.)
- Direct TU's participation in the various science activities associated with implementing the Klamath River initiative.
- Assist TU staff in identifying and prioritizing new watersheds to pursue coordinated streamflow management in partnership with farmers and other landowners.
- Serve as a member of TU's Science Staff and assist in technical transfer and interpretation of science within California program areas and with TU grassroots leaders.
- Manage the science activities in our partnership with California Trout, University of California-Davis, University of Nevada-Reno, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF).
- Prepare all or parts of grant applications, reports, and public outreach materials.

This position would also work closely with our communications and outreach staff to create understandable and persuasive ways to describe trout and salmon and conservation science to the layperson, TU's grassroots' network of hunters and anglers, the media, and decision-makers. Finally, this position would participate in applying TU's Conservation Success Index in California and oversee our growing scientific partnerships with other NGOs and academic institutions in the state. With this new capacity, TU will be better able to use science and partnerships to the fish advantage.

Qualifications

The job requires:

- A master's degree or Ph.D. in science or a field related to riverine ecosystems, fisheries, or watershed management.
- A minimum of 5-7 years relevant experience, and specific experience working on California water resources, salmon, or floodplain management issues. Significant salmon and steelhead science expertise and experience are strongly preferred.
- Experience with project and grant management, project permitting, and complex multi-party negotiations is preferred.
- Proven ability to work with diverse groups of stakeholders, including farmers and other landowners and industry representatives, non-governmental organizations, and legislative staff as well as state and federal agencies.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, as well as first rate research and analytic skills. Previous experience with media, landowner outreach, and public speaking is helpful.
- Demonstrated organizational and problem solving abilities. The job requires the ability to prioritize workload and to be highly motivated and self-directed.
- A passion for fisheries conservation and for protecting and restoring rivers and streams.

The location for the Science Director is our Berkeley California headquarters. Salary is commensurate with experience. The position requires regular travel to Sacramento and other parts of the Central Valley.

To apply, please send a cover letter, resume, references, and a brief writing sample by email to:

Chuck Bonham
California Director
Trout Unlimited
cbonham@tu.org

NOTE: Please include the following in the subject line of your email: "TU CA science director position." Applications for this position are due by February 22, 2011. The position will remain open until filled.