

NOAA Fisheries Seeks Assistance with Development and Review of Water Quality Standards Affecting Pacific Salmon & Steelhead

***** Up to 2 Positions Available *****

Title: Water Quality—Pacific Salmon Specialists

Educational Opportunity Description: NOAA Fisheries is seeking qualified biologists via the Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education (ORISE) Program to assist with the development and review of water quality standards affecting Pacific salmon and steelhead, including populations listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The ongoing development and review of EPA-approved water quality standards, use of pesticides and other toxic compounds, and related interagency ESA consultations on water quality standards, total maximum daily loads, and discharge permits have significantly increased NOAA Fisheries' workload and the need for expertise on the effects of toxicants, heat, and other water pollutants on Pacific salmon and steelhead and other trust resources. The need for some of this technical expertise can be filled with ORISE fellowships to assist senior NOAA Fisheries biologists in Oregon and Washington.

Specialists will work in an interagency context to assist with: 1) development of state or Federal water quality standards for water temperature, toxicants, or other pollutants; 2) review of spatial and temporal distribution of anadromous salmonids in order to designate beneficial uses; 3) GIS mapping of beneficial uses; 4) in-depth technical reviews of state or Federal water quality standards (e.g., numeric and narrative criteria, beneficial uses, antidegradation provisions, variances) to determine and describe potential effects on anadromous salmonids, prey species and competitors; and 5) preparation of ESA biological opinions and other correspondence. Specialists will need to travel to attend meetings and collect some sources of information. Also, specialists will need to provide bi-weekly briefings to the NOAA contact person for the duration of the project.

Rate of Pay: Specialists will receive a stipend of \$40,000 gross pay per appointment (i.e., approx. \$3,333/month gross pay for 12 months) via ORISE. Taxes and other federal, state, and local deductions are the responsibility of the employee. Additional funds will be available to cover project-related travel and documentation/photocopy expenses. Coverage under a medical insurance plan is both required and the responsibility of the applicant.

Duration & Location: Each appointment is for 1 year only (September 1, 2003-August 20, 2004); appointments may or may not be extended. One specialist for Oregon will be provided with office space at the NOAA Fisheries office in Portland, OR, and one specialist will be provided with office space at the NOAA Fisheries office in Lacey, WA.

Requirements: Applicants must demonstrate that they have or will receive a bachelor's degree or higher in biology (preferably with a major or emphasis in fisheries science) during the period between June 1999 and June 2003. Applicants must have in-depth

knowledge of how water quality (e.g., toxicants concentrations, water temperature, turbidity) affect fish and other aquatic organisms. Applicants also must be familiar with the biology, ecology and life histories of anadromous Pacific salmonid fishes, and have experience in preparing technical reports that are clear, accurate and concise. Experience in applying mathematical modeling to assess the environmental effects of pollutant loads on aquatic ecosystems, and familiarity with how state and Federal water quality standards are used to protect aquatic ecosystems, would be beneficial.

Applicants must have a strong work ethic and the initiative to produce, analyze, and report large amounts of technical information. Applicants also must have excellent communication skills and relevant experience, including the demonstrated ability to write clear, accurate and succinct technical reports, and to work cooperatively with technical and policy employees from a variety of agencies and points of view. Travel is necessary so applicants must possess a valid driver's license. Also, qualified applicants must have—and are responsible for—coverage under a medical insurance plan. A medical insurance program is offered through ORISE. The ORISE program may have additional requirements to those stated herein.

Application instructions: Each applicant should prepare a short (<4 pages) resume describing education and work experience relevant to the Educational Opportunity Description and Requirements sections above. Resumes must include the following information:

- A summary of the basis for the applicant's interest in the advertised position, including a description of expertise in the specific subject areas identified above.
- A summary and proof of degrees attained and relevant information (academic institution, dates received, grade point average, honors, etc.)
- A summary of work experience and education highlighting the applicant's ability to perform the advertised work.
- Phone numbers and affiliations of at least two personal references (one of which should be from an academic advisor or professor).
- Notification of disabilities that require special consideration.
- Demonstration of valid driver's license and coverage under a medical insurance plan.

Applicants should send the requested information to Roger Kelley of NOAA Fisheries by fax (503-231-6265) or mail to:

NOAA Fisheries
525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500
Portland, OR 97232-2737

Application Deadline: Applications will be accepted for 21 days after the date of this announcement.