

Water Resources Coordinator

Reports To: Director of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy

Location: Somes Bar Workstation

Salary: \$32,000 to \$36,000, depending on experience

1) What are your typical job responsibilities?

I run the Water Quality Program for the Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources. I write grants to fund the program, take care of the deliverables for the grants, help manage the grant budgets, coordinate and oversee field work, manage the data we collect, and manage the water quality crew.

2) How do you *really* spend your day?

I spend part of my day checking email, returning phone calls, and dealing and coordinating with other agencies, groups, Tribes, etc. that we are working with. I also make sure the field crews know where they are going and that everything is going alright with the equipment. I write reports for our different grants and “work-up” data that the crew collected. Some projects require me to be out in the field with the crew. I also attend meetings either in-person or via conference call for the different organizations and groups that we are a part of to make sure the Tribe’s interests are being represented on the Klamath.

3) How do you organize your day to ensure you get everything done?

I make a lot of lists and keep close tabs on my calendar. I have also learned to delegate certain responsibilities to other folks.

4) What education/career paths lead you to this position? Were there any life changes that guided your way to this position (ex; closing of the mill, desire not to leave area, family)?

I have a BS in Biology from Kansas State University and an MS in Natural Resources Fisheries from Humboldt State University. I have worked in natural resources for 8 years. I have worked in different areas across the country and done research, management, and monitoring for fish, wildlife, and water quality.

5) Uppers; what is the thing that you love most about your job?

I feel honored to work in such a great area; the mid-Klamath is one of the most beautiful spots in the world.

6) Downers; what is the thing that you love least about your job?

Everything is so far away. Some of our normal field sites are over 2 hours away one-way. This makes it challenging to coordinate everything, and all the driving also tires everyone out.

7) What inspires, excites, and/or motivates you in your job?

It is great to work for the Karuk people who I live around and work with. They successfully managed these lands for over 10,000 years, and I think it is a great thing for us to aspire to manage the lands again as well as they did before.

8) What does your average work week schedule look like (ex; hours worked, meetings, appointments, traveling, etc.)?

I work 40+ hours/week Monday-Friday. I generally travel for field work or a meeting every couple of weeks.

9) How do you relieve stress?

Going for a quick walk by the River or up in the mountains always seems to help.

10) Does your job include a lot of traveling? Do you enjoy it?

I travel some for meetings and for field work. While the field work is hard sometimes with long hours, it is rewarding. I don't mind traveling for meetings as long as there is a place with good food for dinner.

11) What advice would you give to someone interested in this line of work?

In school, get a good solid science background. Take a variety of field jobs to learn how to trouble-shoot and problem-solve issues. Other things that they tend not to emphasize in school that are really important are grant and report writing, managing money, and building good relationships with colleagues.

12) What does a typical day in your world look like?

I get up in the morning and get myself and my 14 month old son ready. My husband and I drive down river and drop my son off at daycare. Then, I generally work at my office in Somes Bar, go out in the field, or go to a meeting. In the evenings, we enjoy our property, dogs, and cat and try to go for a walk in the woods or by the River.