

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST – WATERSHED

Approval Date:	August 2024	Department:	Utilities – Water and Liquid Waste
<input type="checkbox"/> IAFF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CUPE	<input type="checkbox"/> Management	
Title of Management Supervisor:	Water Manager		

General Accountability:

Purpose and Scope

Reporting to the Water Manager and taking direction from the Water or Liquid Waste Services Manager, the Environmental Specialist - Watershed is responsible for research, data collection and analysis, monitoring, report writing and liaison with stakeholders regarding the potable and drainage watersheds in Campbell River. Using collaborative skills, technical knowledge, and strategic vision, the Environmental Specialist - Watershed Specialist provides leadership and support on water quality and watershed health related issues across the City. The Watershed Specialist is also responsible for developing and managing partnerships with other levels of government, technical working groups and community groups in support of advancing City projects.

Nature and Scope of Work

Provide a wide variety of advanced technical tasks, assisting with and in some cases taking the lead on the following, but not limited to:

- Review requests regarding watershed activities and consult or advise providing recommendations as appropriate.
- Provide technical services and support City-led environmental projects or programs as required, including inspections, research, preparation of reports and liaison with business operators, managers, governmental agency representatives and the general public.
- Contribute to watershed long term master planning.
- Liaise and maintain strong, positive relationships with senior levels of government (DFO, FLNRO, MOE), watershed stakeholders, and various non-governmental agencies.
- Liaise with contractors, community groups and other city departments.
- Ensure agreements and collaborative work are in accordance with regulations, corporate policies and objectives.
- Prepare correspondence and draft reports and environmental policy and bylaws.
- Prepare and evaluate requests for proposals and review technical and professional plans and reports.
- Review environmental aspects of City initiated projects as required.
- Work collaboratively to address conflicts and develop strategies to mitigate watershed issues and impacts. Work collaboratively with staff to resolve technical, operational or relational issues that may be encountered.
- Investigate complaints and reports regarding discharge of contaminants into the watershed, stormwater system, creek or stream, or other activities of concern.
- Work with consultants.
- Represent the City at meetings with various external committees and agencies.
- Track and report environmental projects progress.
- Implement environmental programs for natural areas preservation.
- Prepare environmental management plans and work instructions.
- Carry out environmental management monitoring for select projects for City departments.
- Assist in the designing, planning and implementation of water quality sampling plans for the drinking and drainage watersheds.
- Carry out data analysis and interpretation of biological and chemical parameters.

- Develop and deliver presentations to community, environmental groups and governmental agencies.
- Perform check of data entry and QA/QC.
- Other duties as may be assigned.

Necessary Qualifications

Knowledge:

- Familiarity with environmental protection techniques and technology, and best practices in environmental stewardship.
- Working knowledge of environmental regulations, policies, and plans at the federal, provincial, regional and municipal level, as well as all environmental procedures/standards/manuals.
- Working knowledge of climate change issues, climate adaptation and climate mitigation science and best practices.
- Sound understanding of fundamental freshwater ecological principles.
- Working knowledge of City Bylaws.
- Work Safe BC regulations and safe work procedures.
- Knowledge of fundamentals of accident prevention.

Skills:

- Strong leadership skills in safety, supervision, planning, organizing and time management.
- Strong project management skills.
- Strong oral, technical writing and interpersonal communication skills.
- Excellent organizational skills.
- Strong analytical, problem solving and decision making skills.
- Effective conflict resolution skills.
- Proficient in relevant computer applications and software.

Abilities:

- Ability to work as part of a team, respond to broad direction, use initiative and innovation, use sound professional judgment and produce results with a minimum of supervision.
- Ability to use considerable independence of judgment and action in applying technical knowledge and environmental regulations.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with a variety of internal and external contacts, including the ability to communicate with tact and discretion when responding to complaints, or clarifying information.
- Ability to learn and adapt to new and changing technology to meet the goals and objectives of the organization.
- Ability to interpret and explain regulations, policies and bylaws applicable to environmental contamination and environmental protection (including habitat protection).
- Ability to plan and prioritize project tasks, perform under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Ability to conduct research and to write successful funding proposals.
- Ability to represent the City's interests in a variety of formal and informal settings.
- Ability and willingness to contribute to maintaining a respectful, safe and supportive work environment that embraces diversity, along with treating everyone with courtesy, dignity and fairness.
- Must have sufficient physical strength, stamina and ability to perform the work.

Education:

- Undergraduate degree from a recognized post-secondary institution in a relevant discipline such as biology, ecology, resource management or environmental science or an assessable comparable education and experience, with a focus on freshwater ecology and/or water quality.

Training/Certification:

- Professional designation as a Registered Professional Biologist (RPBio), Registered Biologist Technologist (RBTech) or Applied Biology Technician (ABT) with the College of Applied Biologists or other relevant professional association.

- Must possess and maintain a valid Class 5 Drivers License as per City policy, as well as produce and maintain a clear driver's abstract.
- Occupational First Aid Level One.

Experience:

- Minimum five (5) years' relevant experience working in the environmental consulting or management field, in a municipal or other level of government setting, or private sector consulting within the last ten (10) years.
- Experience managing environmental projects and implementing sustainability practices.
- Experience related to municipal infrastructure, municipal planning, freshwater systems, stormwater contaminants, and environmental and sustainability initiatives.
- Experience with erosion and sediment control techniques, water quality monitoring.
- Experience in securing facts through investigation, inspection and research.

Preferred Criteria (For External Candidates Only)

- Completion of course work in environmental law, legal process or bylaw enforcement.
- Familiarity with database management, GPS, and GIS software.

Unusual Working Conditions

- May be required to work in adverse weather conditions.
- Shift work, overtime call-outs and weekend work may be required.