



Job Announcement

NRDC Western Water Project

Water Policy Advocate/Staff Attorney

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) is a non-profit national environmental organization with more than 1.2 million members and online activists. We have offices in New York, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Beijing. Our staff of over 350 includes attorneys, scientists, policy analysts and educators working to protect the environment and public health through advocacy and education. The Western Water Project of NRDC works on a variety of issues involving water allocation, water conservation, climate change, protection and restoration of rivers, and the preservation of fish and wildlife in the western United States, with particular emphasis on California.

Position Summary:

NRDC has an immediate opening for a staff attorney or experienced water policy advocate to work in its San Francisco office. This position will include two major responsibilities:

1. advocating with federal and state agencies and in the legislative arena for the protection and restoration of the San Joaquin River, including supporting implementation of NRDC's landmark settlement to restore the San Joaquin River downstream of Friant Dam.
2. working with other Western Water program staff and our coalition partners to advance our Bay-Delta protection, restoration and water conservation goals in court, in Congress, in the State Legislature, in the media, and before all affected state and federal agencies.

Essential Functions:

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Protection and Restoration: Working closely with NRDC staff and other stakeholders, the new water policy advocate will assist in the development of an expanded effort to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in California and to oppose new water supply proposals that would harm California's environment. This effort will encompass issues including water management impacts, water quality protection, fishery and ecosystem restoration, urbanization and levee maintenance, flood management and the impacts of climate change. Responsibilities may also include advocacy with regulatory agencies, the media and legislative offices.

The position will also include work in Sacramento and Washington, DC to broaden support for protection and restoration of the San Francisco Bay-Delta.

San Joaquin River Restoration: Working closely with NRDC senior water project staff, including the San Joaquin River project manager, and coalition partners, develop expertise on San Joaquin River issues and advocate for strengthening of federal and state support for NRDC's restoration program. Serve as a representative of NRDC in a variety of regulatory, administrative and legislative forums advocating for restoration of the San Joaquin River. Review and comment on agency reports, draft rules, etc. Conduct analyses and work with the media on related topics. Work closely with NRDC advocacy, scientific and legal staff on related matters in federal and state court and state administrative processes.

Assist with key fundraising, budget and other institutional responsibilities.

Skills & Knowledge Requirements:

- A graduate degree in a related subject is required; a law degree and litigation experience is desirable but not essential.
- 6-10 years of relevant work experience. Advocacy experience on environmental or water issues is strongly preferred. Experience working on western water issues a plus. Knowledge of California's water system, the San Joaquin River and the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary also helpful. Experience working with Congress and/or the State Legislature very desirable.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Experience working with coalitions and with federal and/or state agencies very helpful.
- Willingness to take on additional tasks and subject areas in the future that may advance water policy reform and the effort to ensure a sustainable water policy in the western United States.
- Fundraising experience a plus.

We offer competitive salaries, excellent benefits and a pleasant working environment and are committed to workplace diversity. Salary is based on a nonprofit scale and commensurate with experience. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and list of references at www.nrdc.org/jobs. Deadline is December 18, 2007. Early applications are strongly encouraged. Please reference where you saw this posting. NRDC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

For more information about NRDC, please visit www.nrdc.org.

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