



JOB POSTING

Northern Shelf Bioregion Marine Protected Area Network Socioeconomic Coordinator

Context

Coastal First Nations - Great Bear Initiative is working with 17 First Nations in a collaboration with the federal and provincial governments to implement a marine protected area (MPA) network in the Northern Shelf Bioregion (NSB), which extends from the middle of Vancouver Island (Quadra Island/Bute Inlet) and reaches north to the Canada - Alaska border. The Network Action Plan, a blueprint for the implementation of an MPA network, was endorsed by the governance partners in February 2023.

The governance partners will work collaboratively to implement the MPA network and support the establishment of the MPA sites, which act as the component parts of the MPA network.

Position Summary

The MPA Socioeconomic Coordinator will work closely with First Nations and other federal and provincial governance partners to support the establishment of MPA sites to develop and implement the structures and processes required for effective implementation of the MPA network. This will include frameworks and processes for assessing costs, benefits and values for monitoring and adaptive management.

This position will be responsible for mapping out key steps and coordinating with governance partner staff and contractors to ensure MPA network implementation is informed by the best socioeconomic and sociocultural costs, benefits, and values information.

Scope of Work

- Prepare a work plan and work closely/coordinate with representatives of First Nations Stewardship Offices to support the socioeconomic and sociocultural components of implementation for the Great Bear Sea (Northern Shelf Bio-region) Network of Marine Protected Areas Action Plan.
- Prepare and oversee socioeconomic and sociocultural contracts including development of project concepts and their scope, statements of work, terms of reference, and timelines and application, where applicable.
- Serve as key support and coordinator for First Nations within the NSB to ensure their socioeconomic and sociocultural values are integrated into the MPA network implementation.
- Work closely with MPA Network Technical Co-chairs to meet the socioeconomic and sociocultural needs of Network governance partners.

- Coordinate and support the socioeconomic requirements (cumulative socioeconomic and sociocultural impacts and benefits, values assessments) and associated sub-working groups.
- Support technical work related to socioeconomic assessments (examples include network monitoring, adaptive management, progress reporting etc.) of the partners.
- Serve as liaison and work closely with the various agencies' and organizations' socioeconomic and sociocultural staff to advance Network.
- Support the science coordinator's coordination and support to the Science Advisory Committee, as required.
- Participate in all technical meetings and, where required or appropriate, senior governance meetings to report on progress of work plan deliverables, socioeconomic and sociocultural projects and product development.
- Schedule, organize, and coordinate meetings and workshops to support the development, application, or communication of socioeconomic and sociocultural products.
- Prepare and deliver presentations.
- Prepare briefing materials and other documents.

Qualifications, Experience and Skills

- 5+ years relevant professional experience.
- Preference to holders of advanced degree(s) in economic and social sciences from a recognized post-secondary institution in an area relevant to the position such as marine planning, environmental studies, economics, accounting, or modeling.
- Experience conducting socioeconomic costs and benefits analyses, including methods for including non-market values, intergenerational considerations, and First Nations' knowledge.
- Experience in designing and implementing social, cultural and human wellbeing monitoring programs and using monitoring outcomes to inform adaptive management.
- Experience in developing clear, concise socioeconomic and sociocultural research questions and working with other experts to identify appropriate methods for addressing them.
- Experience in coordinating or participating in advisory processes.
- Strong skills in coordinating multiple perspectives and responses to complex questions.
- Exceptional ability to communicate with planners, managers, scientists, stakeholders, and the public, both verbally and in writing.
- Familiarity with federal, provincial, and First Nations governments' policies and perspectives.
- Proven capabilities in complex project and contract planning and management.
- Experience working effectively in multi-stakeholder settings.
- Ability to organize and prioritize workload to meet demands in a fast-paced environment.
- Computer proficiency with word processing, e-mail, spreadsheets, and familiarity with desktop publishing / graphics software, and modelling software.

Terms of Engagement

Status: The Coordinator will be an independent contractor to Great Bear Initiative Society. The successful contractor is expected to work from their own office and to provide the equipment necessary to conduct this work, including a computer and software, wireless access, and cell phone. The position requires flexibility in the contractor's work schedule, so that working days align with critical meetings, travel requirements and timelines for product development. In some cases, this may translate working long hours one week (e.g., to prepare for a meeting) and shorter hours another week.

Contract period: 1-year with possibility of renewal

Contract Amount: commensurate with qualifications and experience

Location: contractor to be located in British Columbia

Travel: this position requires travel to many parts of the BC coast. Travel costs are reimbursable.

Project Authority

The Project Authority is Great Bear Initiative Society.

To Apply

For more information or to apply for the position, please send resume to: Steve Diggon, Marine Program Manager, Coastal First Nations-Great Bear Initiative: sdiggon@coastalfirstnations.ca

The Science Coordinator opportunity will remain open until filled.