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April 2021

Marine Species Programme Manager Position Description

Position Title: Marine Species Programme Manager/ Kaiwhakahaere Hōtaka Momo o Tangaroa

Starting salary: \$80-100,000

Location: Wellington, New Zealand

Reports to: Environmental Science Director / Kaihautū Taiao

Direct reports: None

Primary Role of WWF-New Zealand Staff

WWF-New Zealand's mission is to help create a world where people live in harmony with nature '**kia noho ngatahi te tangata ki nga kura taiao**'. The primary role of all staff is to contribute to the achievement of this mission.

Department Context:

WWF-New Zealand's strategy requires all staff to support the delivery of the following goals:

- To help New Zealand's nature and species thrive again (particularly in the ocean and coastal space)
- To engage and support our communities in active conservation efforts
- To help ensure NZ is on track to meet net carbon Zero by 2050
- To be New Zealand's leading credible voice for the environment
- To be the go-to for environmental innovation in New Zealand
- To develop a cohesive, innovative, optimistic and determined culture that will help deliver on our goals

Purpose of the Position

- This position in the Environmental Science Team will have the sole responsibility in managing projects relating to protecting taonga (treasured) marine species and conserving their associated habitats (e.g. Māui and Hector Dolphins, Antipodean Albatross, Black Petrel, Bryde's Whale).

- A focus of this position is undertaking marine species advocacy, ocean related policy analysis and research on a range of issues that WWF works on. In collaboration with other members of the Environmental Science Team, implement WWF New Zealand's environmental science strategy in order to achieve transformative change on priority ocean work areas.

Specific responsibilities

- In collaboration with colleagues, assist in the development of the WWF-New Zealand's environmental science strategy and ocean work planning by incorporating the protection and restoration of taonga marine species and their habitats. Lead and implement the environmental science strategy Marine Species Work Stream to achieve goals and ensure direct impacts.
- Project manage marine species projects to achieve outcomes on time and within budgets (e.g. Māui Drone Project). Maintain relationships and communications with marine species project funders, collaborative partners, science advisors and WWF-International network. Facilitate project meetings and working groups.
- Engage in advocacy and develop policy positions across a range of national marine issues that can be used to achieve priority objectives. Produce written research/policy reports, briefings and presentations for external audiences and colleagues on priority marine species and sustainable fisheries objectives.
- Engage in professional development focused on understanding aspects of Māori worldviews that will inform work stream.
- Learn te reo Māori of an appropriate level.
- Develop and maintain relationships and work collaboratively with relevant external contacts (e.g. academia, government officials, other NGOs) on marine species and sustainable fisheries priorities. Develop and maintain relationships with relevant colleagues in the WWF international network.
- Maintain a national and global level of knowledge on selected taonga/priority marine species. Undertake marine research across a range of disciplines using both formally published and grey literature, to inform and support priority marine species campaigns. Help to maximise fundraising, marketing and communications opportunities on all priority marine species campaigns (including proofing of materials).
- Seek funding opportunities for new marine species protection and conservation related projects.
- Support marine species and ocean campaigns and provide marine science content to the Marketing and Engagement and Corporate Sponsors Teams in order to engage and build relationships with existing and new audiences.

Essential Selection Criteria

- Senior level experience and competence in understanding and interpreting scientific information.
- Masters or Doctorate in a marine science / pūtaiao discipline.
- Knowledge of holistic ecosystem approaches.
- A commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- Experience and competence in translating complex marine science and social science into policy positions and compelling arguments.

- Experience and competence in producing high quality written research reports and briefings for external audiences.
- High level of competence in advising and advocating for environmental change, particular for ocean health and marine species.
- Demonstrable knowledge of legislative process and environmental policy.
- Excellent time and project management skills.
- Experience of developing relationships and communications with a range of stakeholders (in particular, government officials, iwi, communities and industry).

Desirable selection criteria

- An understanding of Te Ao Māori and Te Reo Māori.
- Experience working for an international NGO/non-profit and/or with multi-country stakeholders.
- A track record of transforming academic/scientific information into engaging content for multiple audiences.

Personal Attributes Required

- Effective time management skills, and an ability to manage competing priorities.
- Environmentally conscious with a commitment to WWF's values and an enthusiasm for being part of our mission to build a future where people live in harmony with nature.
- A genuine recognition of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- A commitment to and recognition of Equal Employment Opportunities principles.
- A keen team player with a proven 'hands on' can-do attitude.
- A strong desire to keep learning, adapting and improving, taking on new professional skills.
- A great communicator and networker - capable of getting various partners and stakeholders on board with our journey to help us amplify our work ensuring direct impact for marine species and ocean environments.
- Ability to embrace knowledge by listening deeply and building on marine science.