



Position Announcement: Stewardship Manager

February 9, 2010

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) is seeking an individual for a newly created Stewardship Manager position. The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group is a private non-profit organization dedicated to engaging our community in restoring wild salmon populations for future generations. Anticipated start date: April 1, 2010

Position Summary:

The Stewardship Manager is a new full-time position with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) responsible for managing and implementing strategic stewardship programs aimed at protecting and enhancing the ecological function of aquatic habitat and waterways for salmon within the SFEG's Regional Boundaries (i.e. the Skagit and Samish River watersheds, northern Whidbey Island, and San Juan Islands). The job will entail leading cooperative efforts to control invasive plants (focusing on knotweed), and evaluating and managing floodplain properties that are owned by partner entities to protect anadromous salmonid habitats. The position is supervised by SFEG's Restoration Ecologist, and will require oversight and coordination of a Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) crew, contractors, and SFEG interns and technical staff as needed.

Duties and Responsibilities:

SFEG's Stewardship Manager will be responsible for coordinating and implementing the Upper Skagit Knotweed Program, an innovative multi-partner effort to inventory and control high risk invasive plant species, particularly invasive knotweeds. The Upper Skagit Knotweed Program is a multi-agency effort, involving multiple landowners and partner agencies, within the Skagit Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA). Primary duties include planning, organizing and participating in field survey and control efforts, oversight of a WCC field crew, and other contractors engaged in on-the-ground weed control activities, data entry and analysis, and preparing project reports. The Stewardship Manager will work with SFEG's Executive Director and Restoration Ecologist to identify ongoing funding sources for the project, prepare grant applications, and track deliverables and budgets for multiple grants. S/he will also co-chair biannual Skagit Knotweed Working Group/Skagit CWMA meetings, share information on the program with other individuals involved in invasive species control through written and verbal presentations, and performs outreach to educate landowners about invasive species and to secure permission to do weed control work. The Stewardship Manager will work closely with The Nature Conservancy during 2010 and beyond as depicted in the jointly written MOU. The Stewardship Manager will work with partner organizations to develop and test experimental planning tools and monitoring and control methods aimed at improving program effectiveness and informing other weed control programs in the region. Approximately 50% of the Stewardship Manager's time will be spent managing this project.

The Stewardship Manager will also act as project lead for SFEG's Seattle City Light Land Stewardship Project. These responsibilities will include coordinating and conducting quarterly property inspections to identify stewardship issues, completing site visit checklists, developing parcel Stewardship Action Plans, and writing project implementation reports. The Stewardship Manager will work closely with Seattle City Light personnel to ensure proper execution of deliverables, management of the budget, and ensuring that additional work assigned has an appropriate budget and timeline. Approximately 25% of the position will be spent managing this project.

Other activities for the Stewardship Manager will include assisting with the implementation and monitoring of other SFEG restoration projects as needed throughout SFEG's area of responsibility. The position will also perform other duties as directed by the Restoration Ecologist.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Possesses a Bachelors degree in botany, biology, ecology, environmental science or closely related fields with at least 2 years applicable professional experience or educational equivalent.
- Familiarity with watershed restoration and salmon habitat needs
- Possesses excellent interpersonal and communication skills, both oral and written. Ability to write effective progress reports and assist with the preparation of competitive funding proposals.
- Ability to interact positively with and motivate a wide range of people, including volunteers, landowners and public agencies. Conveys information clearly and concisely.
- Ability to apply science to decision-making and to guide identification of appropriate stewardship activities.
- Strong data management and analysis skills.
- Proven experience managing or leading the implementation of environmental restoration projects including experience with coordinating work between partner agencies and directing the efforts of multi-person field crews.
- Ability to interpret maps and aerial photographs. Proficiency with GPS and GIS is required.
- Knowledge and skills related to native plant identification and revegetation techniques.
- Knowledge and skills related to identification and treatment of invasive species specifically those associated with riparian or floodplain areas
- Experience applying and/or willingness to apply herbicides. Must have or obtain Private Commercial Herbicide Applicators License prior to July 2010.
- Willingness to perform duties in all types of weather and terrain. Able to perform physically demanding manual labor outdoors, at remote locations, on difficult and hazardous terrain in all types of weather.
- Ability to operate hand and power tools such as brush cutters, chainsaws, and drills and to direct others in their safe use.
- Has or can acquire a boater safety card and complete a Swiftwater Rescue Technician 1 training program prior to June 2010.
- Has experience with word processing, database, GIS and spreadsheet computer software (such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Access and Powerpoint)
- Demonstrates ability to work independently and as part of team
- Demonstrates the ability to be fiscally responsible by preparing budgets, working within them, and completing progress reports in an accurate and timely manner. Complies with all SFEG purchasing policies and guidelines.

WAGES and BENEFITS:

\$14.50-\$16.50 per hour depending on qualifications and experience

Full medical and dental insurance, retirement plan, vacation and sick leave

To apply, send cover letter, resume and three references by 5 pm on March 1, 2010 to:

SFEG

Attn: Stewardship Manager Position

PO Box 2497

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Email: astudley@skagitfisheries.org (preferred)

Phone: 360-336-0172 Web: www.skagitfisheries.org

Questions may also be directed to Sue Madsen at 360-770-8386