



FULLTIME POSITION—PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE KOEYE SALMON ECOSYSTEM STUDY

THE PROJECT

The [Salmon Watersheds Lab](#) at Simon Fraser University (SFU) is seeking a Project Manager to lead the Koeye Salmon Ecosystem Study, an ongoing collaborative research and monitoring initiative on the Koeye River. The Koeye River is an unlogged, roadless watershed on the Central Coast of British Columbia. Program staff from the Heiltsuk Nation and SFU conduct field operations in the lower Koeye River from April through October, with semi-regular overnight trips upriver to Koeye Lake. The field setting is extremely remote, based in a rustic cabin located on the lower reaches of the watershed, which is accessed by boat. For the remainder of the year, the position will be based out of SFU (Vancouver, BC).

This project, which began in 2012, is a collaborative initiative with the Heiltsuk Nation, the Hakai Institute, and the Wild Salmon Center. It produces annual estimates of salmon smolt and adult survival and abundance through tagging, recapture, visual and video enumeration, and the operations of a full-river weir. Additional research may be a part of this program, as defined by the priorities of the project partners. The aim of collecting these data is to support conservation and management of wild salmon on the Central Coast of British Columbia and beyond, and to provide foundational understanding of how salmon populations are responding to ongoing climate change.

The Project Manager is primarily responsible for on-site staff management and coordinating daily sampling activities. The successful candidate will be responsible for being the project lead in the field; planning and undertaking the collection of data, data entry and organization, maintenance of project infrastructure and equipment, field safety and field team morale, and being a respectful liaison with collaborators and community members from the Heiltsuk First Nation. The field season runs daily from April through October, with a break in August for approximately three weeks. During the non-field season, the Project Manager will organize and process samples, maintain equipment, and perform administrative tasks such as report writing. There may be opportunities, if interest and time allow, to perform data analysis and to contribute to writing grants or scientific papers. The Project Manager reports to Dr. Jonathan Moore (SFU) and the Heiltsuk Integrated Resource Management Department (HIRMD).

The successful candidate will have expertise in leading field teams and managing staff, working safely and collaboratively in remote settings, boat operations, and salmon enumeration techniques, as well as a desire and demonstrated ability to work in cross-cultural settings.



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Jonathan Moore and Team



PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Learn and maintain existing protocols for data collection and management; Conduct ongoing smolt trapping, weir operations and adult tagging, and fall spawner surveys.
- Lead and manage a crew of between 2 and 5 Heiltsuk and SFU technicians/graduate researchers;
- Ensure a safe and positive working environment for field staff and on-site visitors; supervise safe program operations and compliance with established field safety protocols in a dynamic and remote environment;
- Maintain project boats and physical infrastructure, including: weir, camera and RFID systems, and field cabins;
- Manage in-season data processing and reporting to support co-governance of salmon fisheries;
- Support Heiltsuk community and youth involvement in Koeeye programs, *e.g.* outreach activities with the Heiltsuk youth summer camp, Koeeye Camp;
- Coordinate with the Project Lead Scientist (Wild Salmon Center) on permit applications, grant writing, reporting, and budgeting;
- Produce annual reports for HIRMD, project partners, and DFO;
- Organize and lead maintenance of field equipment and purchasing during non-field months (with assistance from Salmon Watersheds Lab admin staff);
- Coordinate lab work, sample storage and processing, and data organization during the non-field months.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES/ OPPORTUNITIES

- Be an active member of the Salmon Watersheds Lab, such as participating in weekly lab meetings;
- Participate in cultural and community-led activities in the Koeeye watershed, including with the Koeeye Camp, community members, and food fishers;
- Lead scientific analysis and writing related to findings from the Koeeye project, with the potential to author or co-author peer-reviewed publications.

DESIRED SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Strong inter-personal, communication, leadership and project management skills;
- Experience managing field staff;
- 2+ years of professional experience doing field research with teams in remote field settings;
- Comfort and experience working in and around swiftwater rivers and ocean settings;
- Flexibility and adaptability in the face of unforeseen field challenges;
- A Bachelors or equivalent in natural sciences;



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DESIRED SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS CONT.

- Demonstrated experience operating and maintaining boats is strongly desired;
- Expertise in salmon monitoring science, methods, and practical applications;
- Wilderness First Aid, Swift Water Rescue and Restricted Radio Operator Certificate (Maritime) are desired but applicants can also receive this training (paid) as part of their employment;
- Experience working with Indigenous communities;
- Physically capable of walking >10 km on rough trails with a pack, and lifting heavy objects;
- Eligible for employment in Canada (either as a citizen, permanent resident or work permit holder).

OTHER INFORMATION

This is a 1-year appointment, from approximately **April/May, 2021 to March/April, 2022**. There is potential for longer-term extension based on performance and funding. The annual salary range for this position is between CAD \$50,000–\$65,000 + extended health benefits, dependent upon skills, experience and qualifications of the successful candidate. This position is made possible with support from the Hakai Institute, the Salmon Watersheds Lab, and the BC Salmon Recovery and Innovation Fund. Funds are available to cover the full costs of salary, research and travel expenses. In light of Covid-19, working remotely during the non-field season is an option.

TO APPLY

Applicants should email a CV and a brief cover letter to adminjwm@sfu.ca with the subject: "Koeye Project Manager application". Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Please note that only applicants proceeding to the next round will be contacted regarding the outcome of their application. In addition, please note:

- Your CV (PDF) should reference relevant work and educational experience and contact information for three (3) references;
- Your cover letter (PDF) should be two (2) pages or less and should address:
 1. Relevant experience;
 2. Why you are interested in the position.

THANKS TO PROJECT PARTNERS

