



YUKON RIVER DRAINAGE FISHERIES ASSOCIATION

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POSITION: Environmental Specialist (GIS/Biologist)

LOCATION: Hybrid/remote in Alaska

STATUS: Full-time

SALARY: DOE

About the organization: The Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association (YRDFA) was formed in 1991 when fishing leaders from the Alaska portion of the Yukon River and its main tributaries gathered together to work on salmon fisheries issues along the Yukon River. Over time, YRDFA has matured into an organization through which fishing families throughout the Yukon River drainage work together by sharing information and perspectives at decision-making forums. YRDFA has developed unique outreach and education programs, addressed threats to salmon in the marine and freshwater environments, and implemented traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) research, as well as offered training and employment to sustain the fishing way of life along the Yukon River. Our board members and alternates live along the Yukon River and work to achieve our mission of protecting and promoting all healthy wild fisheries and cultures along the Yukon River.

Position Summary: This position is responsible for providing scientific and technical support to support the creation of a Watershed Ecosystem Action Plan (WEAP). The ecosystem plan will address freshwater habitat impacts that are contributing to the degradation of Pacific Salmon freshwater rearing and spawning habitats in the Yukon river drainage. The WEAP will be a written planning document and associated GIS mapping tool, which will prioritize the ecosystem restoration activities in the watershed most likely to benefit Pacific Salmon productivity. The environmental scientist will be responsible for creating a GIS prioritization tool that will be used to support the WEAP planning document. The GIS tool will incorporate Traditional Ecological Knowledge, existing fisheries data, known anthropogenic impacts, available mapping data, and remote sensing techniques where appropriate. YRDFA envisions development of the GIS tool and the factors supporting the prioritization scores will be a collaborative process with the input of multiple partners and agencies convened through a WEAP working group. The environmental scientist will also assist with training and quality control oversight of field crews collecting stream habitat and water quality metrics.

Job Description: The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Analyst will provide essential scientific and technical support to the implementation of Watershed Ecosystem Action Plan for the Yukon river drainage. Duties and functions will include:

- Develop a GIS prioritization tool to support a comprehensive WEAP document.
- Participate in the WEAP working group; provide scientific support and technical writing support
- to assist the program manager and WEAP planning group with drafting the narrative sections in the WEAP.
- Attend Lotic Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring (AIM) training May 11-20 in Anchorage, AK.
- Assist with identification of survey locations for field crews who will be collecting stream habitat

- and water quality metrics in accordance with the Bureau of Land Management Lotic AIM
- protocol. Field crew will be located in 7 hub villages throughout the Yukon Watershed.
- Assist with purchase and configuration of survey data collection equipment and iPads for the
- field crews.
- Travel to Yukon River villages to provide quality control and supplemental AIM training for field
- staff.
- Assist with planning logistics such as air, boat, and ground transportation, meals, and lodging.
- Regularly communicate via phone, fax, and e-mail to project partners.

Job Requirements/Qualifications: The ideal candidate will have the following background and skills:

- Knowledge of and proficiency using ArcGIS software (ArcGIS, ArcMap, ArcPro) and related spatial data management products.
- Experience with ArcGIS Portal, Online and web-app development.
- Experience reviewing and editing draft maps and spatial data layers to ensure accuracy and precision of final projects including data depiction, registration, and presentation.
- Experience formatting and integrating tabular data for use in conjunction with ArcGIS.
- Understanding of Python scripting to perform GIS analysis and automate GIS processes.
- Experience documenting GIS data layers by writing metadata following established standards, which includes Federal Geographic Data Committee compliant metadata (i.e., national standard for metadata).
- Willingness to improve GIS skills through on line training and / or working with other GIS experts.
- Experience using MS Office Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Self-initiative.
- Desire and willingness to work as part of a team.
- Willingness and ability to travel to rural Yukon River villages and urban Alaskan hubs periodically.
- Ability to effectively engage and partner with others.
- Bachelor of Science or advanced degree in geographic information systems, geography, geology, biological science, ecology, conservation biology, or environmental science. Experience may be substituted for education.

Work may at times be physically demanding. May require walking and maintaining balance on slippery surfaces and sloping, highly uneven stream banks, and in conditions of moderate streamflow; may require lifting, pulling, pushing, and carrying of field equipment over long distances. The position will also require multi-day travel to remote areas in Alaska by boat or small plane

This opportunity is an at-will position, in which the program coordinator will be an employee of the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association and subject to YRDFA's personnel policies, benefits, and its hiring and termination decisions. Benefits include vacation leave, sick leave, paid holidays, and HSA benefits.

To Apply: Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please provide a cover letter outlining your interest and experience and a resume, to: Serena Fitka, Executive Director, YRDFA at serena@yukonsalmon.org.

Hire Date: We anticipate a start date of May 1, 2023.