STAFF ATTORNEY OPPORTUNITY

WaterWatch of Oregon is a non-profit organization with a mission to protect and restore streamflows in Oregon’s rivers for native fish, wildlife and the people who depend on healthy rivers. It also works to protect and restore free flowing rivers, remove obsolete dams, advocate for sustainable groundwater management, and secure balanced and equitable water policies and investments in a climate changed world.

In 1985, WaterWatch was the first organization in the nation to focus on this challenging mission and our work has become a model for similar efforts in other western states. This position reports to the Executive Director, but will involve working and coordinating with WaterWatch’s entire staff.

This position will give one the opportunity to advocate for Oregon’s rivers and sound water policy and management in the legal, administrative and legislative arenas, and in other processes.

Qualifications:

- An interest in and commitment to WaterWatch’s mission.
- A law degree and admission to the Oregon State Bar, or the ability to promptly become admitted to the Oregon State Bar.
- At least two years of legal or other relevant experience is preferred.
- Experience in, or strong interest in learning, water law and Oregon administrative law.
- Willingness to litigate cases for WaterWatch in administrative and judicial forums.
- Excellent research, writing, negotiation, and oral advocacy skills.
- Experience in negotiating and documenting negotiated resolutions, such as settlement agreements in litigation, rules, and legislation is preferred.
- Ability to successfully manage and track projects with jurisdictional deadlines.
- Ability to think strategically and the political savvy needed to generate solutions to water issues, negotiate with other stakeholders and adverse parties, and secure reforms.
- Willingness to do some travel.
- Ability to work as part of a team with WaterWatch staff and with colleagues outside of WaterWatch.
- Good social skills and the ability to get along well with others and handle interpersonal relationships judiciously and empathetically.
Commitment to Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:

WaterWatch values diverse perspectives and experiences, and seeks candidates who will help foster an equitable and inclusive organization. WaterWatch embraces, respects and values individuals regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin or ancestry.

Pay and Benefits:

This is a full-time exempt position with a preference for the Portland area; a flexible geographic location within Oregon may be considered for the right applicant. The starting salary range for this position is $60,000 to $70,000 per year depending on experience. Benefits include an allocation for Regence “gold” level health insurance plan, dental and vision insurance; 401(k) retirement plan option with employer match up to 3%; Paid Time Off (PTO) of 20 days per year to start with and increasing PTO based on years of service; and recurring 6-week sabbatical eligibility after seven years. Bar dues and some CLE expenses are also paid by WaterWatch.

Instructions for applying:

Applicants should submit a cover letter explaining how you would contribute to achieving WaterWatch’s mission, resume, and 3 references combined into a single PDF document to Neil@waterwatch.org by 5 pm Pacific on December 16, 2022. Review of completed applications will continue until the position is filled.

Important Note About COVID-19

WaterWatch is a fully vaccinated workplace, and COVID-19 vaccination is required upon hire unless a reasonable accommodation is requested and granted. Currently, the work environment is flexible, with office and remote working. This policy may change in the future.

More on WaterWatch at: https://waterwatch.org/