



HEALTHY CATCHMENTS
HEALTHY OCEANS

Position Description and Information

Position Title:	Tide to Table Project Officer - Moreton Bay
Employer:	OceanWatch Australia Ltd
Location:	Moreton Bay, South East Queensland
Reports to:	Executive Officer Line managed by Aquatic Habitat Rehabilitation Program Manager
Employment Status:	Fixed 12 month contract
Salary:	\$55,000 p.a. plus superannuation

OceanWatch Australia

Our vision: Healthy catchments and healthy oceans for sustainable, quality Australian seafood.

OceanWatch Australia Ltd is a national not-for-profit environmental company that works to advance sustainability in the Australian seafood industry. OceanWatch key activities involve:

- enhancing fish habitats and improving water quality in estuaries and coastal environments
- working with industry and local communities to minimise environmental impacts
- introducing industry and communities to sustainable technologies and behaviours.

To achieve these positive outcomes, OceanWatch Australia works in partnership with the Australian seafood industry, federal and state governments, natural resource managers, private enterprise and local communities.

OceanWatch Australia has three funding sources; a voluntary contribution from the seafood industry, federal and state government grants and through fundraising activities.

Project Officer Position Description & Responsibilities

Project Description

OceanWatch Australia (OWA) has a program called Tide to Table (T2T) which works towards ensuring sustainable fish stocks into the future by rehabilitating and protecting key coastal habitats that fish rely on to breed, grow, shelter and feed. T2T recognises the link



between the commercial fishing industry that provides seafood for our dinner, and the catchment land use practices and activities in and along waterways in the SE Queensland regions catchments.

As primary producers, commercial fishers rely on clean, healthy waterways and viable fish habitat to sustain healthy fish populations. Any activities that degrade water quality and fish habitat, directly impact on fish stocks. Conversely, activities which improve habitat and water quality have a direct benefit to fish stocks. T2T addresses the need for on-ground works to improve fish habitat and water quality and hence, the sustainability of the Australian seafood industry. These on-ground works include;

- the creation of in-stream habitat,
- the restoration of riparian vegetation
- sediment and erosion control works
- improvement to habitat connectivity
- the rehabilitation of estuarine and wetland areas.

OWA has been granted funding for a Qld T2T program under the Australian Government's Caring for our Country program. The Moreton Bay project is part of the coastal hotspots target. Work will involve partnering with local and state government, regional NRM bodies, and fishing industry stakeholders to protect and rehabilitate declared fish habitats in Moreton Bay, through initiatives such as a devolved grants program, to address negative environmental impacts in marine and coastal areas and ensure the long term protection and enhancement of fish habitats. Priority coastal fish habitats will be targeted where there is community capacity to implement, maintain and manage a devolved grants program and on-ground works.

Position Description

A Project Officer is required full-time on a fix term 12 month contract, with flexibility to coordinate, support and foster partnerships between the fishing and aquaculture industry, community groups, NRM Group, local government, Government Agencies and other key stakeholders to manage and implement habitat rehabilitation works which directly benefit fish habitat.

The Project Officer will also manage and undertake project promotion, education and awareness raising activities focused on increasing understanding of the value of and threats to fish habitats. Project activities will be guided by the Program Manager and the project's Steering Committee. The Project Officer will be based in an office within SEQ Catchments in Cleveland, with some regional travel required.

Key Responsibilities of the Project Officer

1. Project management of "Tide to Table" Moreton Bay hotspots project
 - a. Development of the contract documents and management of sub-contractors for on-ground works, involving weed control, riparian rehabilitation, improving fish passage and addressing rubbish dumping on saltmarsh, and marine debris issues following flooding events.
 - b. Liaison with local government and other landholders or land managers on whose land works are to be undertaken.

- c. Identification and establishment of partnership opportunities and implementation of partnership activities between the commercial and recreational fishing industry, SEQ Catchments, community groups, government, other natural resource management groups and key stakeholders with support from the project Steering Committee.
 - d. Coordination of and working with sub-contractors to deliver the on-ground activities, including volunteer involvement and coordinating monitoring and evaluation of outcomes.
 - e. Coordination of the Project Steering Committee in conjunction with the Project Manager e.g. arranging meetings, taking of minutes and coordination of actions arising from meetings.
 - f. Manage all aspects of the project, including finances.
 - g. Monitoring and reporting progress of the project in accordance with the Australian Government's Caring for our Country - contract requirements.
 - h. Assist with other OWA programs and in seeking further funding for the organisation.
2. Develop and implement a communication plan, including the following tasks;
- a. Promote the philosophy of OceanWatch Australia and the Tide to Table program.
 - b. Organise and implement awareness raising activities involving the seafood industry, other primary industries, recreational fishers, community groups and the general public to increase understanding of the link between catchment land use activities and downstream fish habitats and fish stocks, e.g. through catchment tours, coastal management interactive activities and public displays at key events.
 - c. Develop promotional and community awareness materials to increase understanding of value of fish habitats e.g. media releases, newsletters, brochures etc.
 - d. Provide regular updates for project participants such that community groups, primary industry, landholders, fishers and the general public can learn about project progress and other partnership opportunities.
 - e. Provide regular reports on progress and outcomes to the project Steering Committee and Australian Government in accordance with the contract requirements.
 - f. Provide feedback and advice to State and Commonwealth government agencies on related regional issues.
 - g. Maintain and develop networks between the community, commercial and recreational fishing industry, land based primary producers, SEQ catchments state and local governments, Traditional Owners and other relevant stakeholders.

Selection Criteria

Essential

- Degree in natural resource management or equivalent
- Project management experience managing natural resource projects, including all aspects of financial management, strategic planning, managing sub-contractors, coordination, monitoring and reporting.
- Understanding of current rehabilitation and restoration practices for aquatic systems, particularly estuarine habitats
- Demonstrated high level written and oral communication and liaison with a range of stakeholders, including the media
- Ability to work with minimal supervision but also as part of a team to make positive contributions with respect to ongoing organisational development
- Knowledge and understanding of equal employment opportunity (EEO), occupational health and safety (OHS) and ethical practice.
- Current Class 1C driver's license.

Desirable

- Knowledge of the commercial fishing industry
- Knowledge of the marine environment
- Marine debris clean-up experience
- Experience in community environmental education and awareness raising

This is a full time, 12 month contract, with a possibility of extension if funding becomes available.

The position will be based in Cleveland, Queensland.

How to Apply

All candidates must submit a current CV and a letter addressing the selection criteria to be considered for this role. Applications submitted without selection criteria will not be considered.

Applications for this position are due by close of business 27 April 2011.

If you would like to discuss this position, or would like more information, please call Simon Rowe on (02) 9660 2262 or email tide@oceanwatch.org.au.

You may send us your application, before the deadline, in the following ways:

Post: Executive Officer
OceanWatch Australia Ltd.
Locked Bag 247
Pymont NSW 2009

Email: tide@oceanwatch.org.au

Fax: 02 9660 2786