

Job Description

Position Title: *Scientist - Freshwater*

Responsible to: Team Leader - Freshwater & Coastal

Responsible for: n/a

Relationships:

Freshwater & Coastal team
Environment Quality team
All Taranaki Regional Council staff
Other regional and local authority staff
Central government agencies
Resource consent applicants, holders and their consultants
General public, iwi and special interest groups

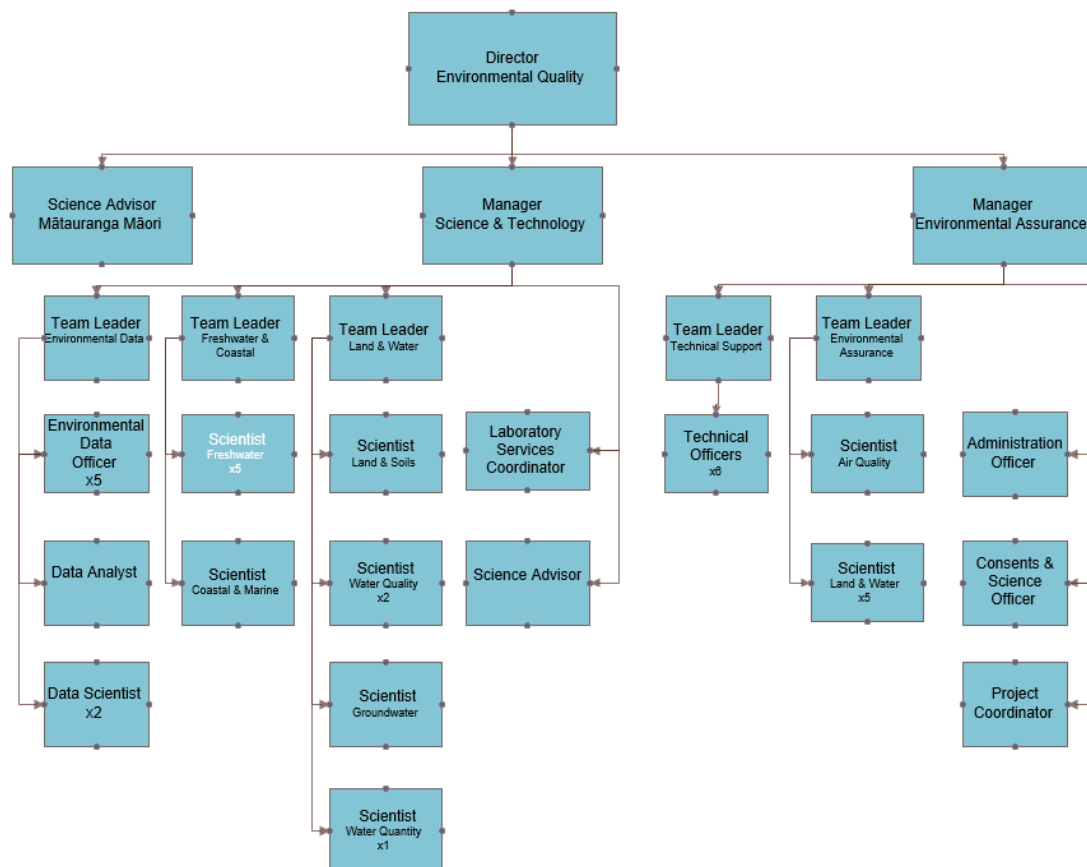
Salary: A market salary for the position will be negotiated, depending on experience, qualifications and aptitude.

Location: Stratford, although travel throughout the region will be required as part your daily duties

Job Context: Permanent Full Time

Position Number: TBC

Holder: Vacant



Role of a Scientist - Freshwater

The role of Scientist – Freshwater is to plan, coordinate and deliver the Council's environmental and statutory functions and responsibilities in collaboration with the broader Environment Quality team and to provide specialist expertise and knowledge. This role requires broad knowledge of environmental science and has a particular focus on freshwater ecology (benthic invertebrates, freshwater fish, periphyton etc.) in rivers and lakes.

Key Skills

Qualification

- Required: a tertiary qualification in freshwater ecology/biology or water chemistry
- Desired: at least 2 years relevant work experience in relevant scientific monitoring techniques, data analysis and technical report writing

Knowledge

- Computer literacy, including confidence in a range of Microsoft Office products
- Familiarity with the Resource Management Act 1991
- Technical and practical proficiency and competency in freshwater ecology/biology or water chemistry
- Understanding and appreciation of Maori cultural and spiritual values and protocols

Skills / Experience

- Excellent communication skills including reporting abilities
- Strict attention to quality control, data management and accurate record keeping
- Ability to analyse data relevant to freshwater science
- Proven interpersonal and conflict resolution skills
- Strong organisation and time management skills
- Problem solving skills
- Leadership and motivational skills
- Drivers Licence for a Manual Vehicle

Personal Attributes

- Team player
- Practical problem solver
- Finely tuned attention to detail and time management
- Good level of fitness and eyesight
- Innovative and self-motivated
- Willingness to adapt

Tasks

- Lead the design, implementation and reporting for assigned freshwater monitoring and research programmes/projects. Including day to day programme management, assigning and undertaking inspections/investigations, sampling, record keeping, database entries and collation of information, analysis of data and interpretation of results, preparation of reports, including effective recommendations
- Provide scientific expertise and support in the form of specialist advice and evaluation of court evidence, consent applications, monitoring programme design, court evidence and other resource management activities
- Provide guidance to resource users and the public on matters of environmental management
- Foster constructive relationships with external parties who are involved and affected
- Contribute to the range of work undertaken by the Policy and Planning, Compliance and Consents, Land Management and Biodiversity teams, including implementation of Council's Essential Freshwater programme
- Maintain and develop specialist knowledge relevant to this role through research in relation to best practice and current scientific advancements
- Communicate science effectively to a range of audiences
- Any other task and duties as required

Special requirements

- May be required to work outside normal working hours
- Must be able to undertake the physical requirements of the position
- May be required to work with hazardous and toxic materials
- May be expected to work under conditions in which personal risk is maybe incurred and safety procedures must be adhered to in accordance with the Council's Policies and Procedures

Health and Safety

The Taranaki Regional Council is committed to a process of continuous improvement in order to achieve excellence in the management of health and safety at all of our workplaces. We recognise the positive impact that the values and benefits of enhanced health and safety bring to the organisation, our employees and our communities. There are two key points to health and safety:

- The safety of our people and the communities in which we operate always comes first.
- We are all empowered and expected to challenge any unsafe situation at work.

We will achieve these by:

- Building culture
- Aiming for zero harm
- Taking reasonable practicable steps
- Managing contractors
- Communicate
- Develop knowledge
- Investigate and learn
- Ensure competence to do the job

Mission and Key Messages

Our Mission:

To work for a thriving and prosperous Taranaki by:

- Promoting the sustainable use, development and protections of our natural and physical resources
- Safeguarding Taranaki's people and resources from natural and other hazards
- Promoting and providing for significant services, amenities and infrastructure
- Representing Taranaki's interests and contributions to the regionally, nationally and internationally community

We will do this by leading with responsibility, working cooperatively, encouraging community participation, and taking into account the Treaty of Waitangi.

Our Key Messages:

The Taranaki Regional Council works with the Taranaki community:

- Improving lifestyles
- Supporting livelihoods
- Taking Taranaki forward

Values:

We are committed to:

- Public service
- Service First
- Improving the quality of our performance
- Working safely
- Effective communication and teamwork
- Initiative and the right to make mistakes
- Accountability and results
- Presentation, respect and care
- Job satisfaction