

US Ocean Conservation Manager - Job Description

COMPANY SUMMARY

WILDCOAST is an international team that conserves coastal and marine ecosystems and addresses climate change through natural solutions. To achieve our mission we establish and manage protected areas, protect and restore blue carbon ecosystems, and partner with local communities, governments, and the private sector. WILDCOAST is helping to conserve some of the most ecologically important coastline, wetlands, islands, and marine wilderness in the world.

JOB TITLE

US Ocean Conservation Manager

Reports to: Director of Conservation Impact

STATUS: Full Time Exempt

COMPENSATION: \$75,000-\$80,000 annually DOE, including paid time off, benefits, and a 4% matching 401k.

POSITION SUMMARY

The US Ocean Conservation Manager works to advance WILDCOAST's work to conserve, manage, and restore coastal and ocean ecosystems.

This is a hybrid position based in San Diego County, California, with office work required at our office in Del Mar, as well as some remote work. Night and weekend work, as well as frequent travel throughout California, are required. International travel, including to Mexico, will be expected.

This is a leadership position in which the successful team member will be expected to work with WILDCOAST colleagues as well as partners and stakeholders to help innovate and expand coastal and ocean conservation and on the ground natural climate solutions in California, and beyond.

The successful team member is a self-starter comfortable with being challenged who thrives in the field as well as working with media, policy makers, elected officials, the private sector, scientists and community members to advance ocean conservation projects and policies.

Job duties include:

- Drive and innovate WILDCOAST's ocean enforcement and compliance efforts including bold leadership of and within coalitions such as US Nature4Climate, MPA NGO Coalition, Power in Nature San Diego, Power in Nature Ocean Subcommittee, NOPC 30x30, Border Pollution Coalition, and California's Natural and Working Lands Coalition.
- Act as statewide liaison for connecting enforcement officials with resource managers, elected officials, and other stakeholders to facilitate communication and build a robust MPA enforcement network.
- Co-chair the San Diego County MPA Collaborative including planning and facilitation of meetings, oversight of working groups, and coordination with the statewide MPA Collaborative network.
- Coordinate the statewide MPA Watch network including planning and facilitation of biannual meetings, coordination among MPA Watch partners, coordination with GreenInfo Network to manage the Information Management System (IMS/data portal), coordination with state agencies including Ocean Protection Council and California Department of Fish and Wildlife, biannual data reporting, and the creation of regional snapshot reports.
- Facilitate a working group of MPA Watch programs and UC Davis to develop and implement a point-intercept protocol for use by MPA Watch programs.
- Lead the Compliance Working Group including facilitation of monthly meetings, representation at relevant outside meetings, and creation and distribution of quarterly reports.
- Manage the M2 Radar project including maintenance, ground-truthing, communicating results with appropriate audiences, and coordination with law enforcement and prosecutors on relevant cases.

- Lead efforts in the ongoing Decadal Management Review of the MPA Network and related petition process.
- Advance ocean policy in California through sign-on letters, public comment, and meetings with decision-makers to discuss the issue of non-compliance in California MPAs, and form partnerships for strengthened enforcement support.
- Support the Marine Debris team on expanded activities in south San Diego County.
- Explore opportunities to expand in situ ocean conservation efforts in the United States.
- Lead grant writing and reporting for US Oceans grants.
- Conduct administrative tasks including oversight and writing of project grants, contracts/agreements, tracking, reporting, and data collection.
- Represent WILDCOAST to partners, outside agencies, volunteers, media, and potential donors.
- Attend regional, state, and national forums and meetings on ocean conservation and management as needed.
- Fundraise for program activities through writing grant applications and participating in fundraising events.
- Create and distribute outreach materials for different audiences.
- Develop relevant stories (written, video, photographic, etc.) for WILDCOAST social media, media, and other outlets.
- Support all WILDCOAST projects, events, and activities as needed.
- Be comfortable giving public presentations and being interviewed by the media, often with little to no notice.
- Be an active and enthusiastic participant in traditional media and social media storytelling for this project and for WILDCOAST.
- Be an engaged and enthusiastic ocean conservation optimist and team player at and for WILDCOAST.

REQUISITE SKILLS / EDUCATION

Education: Graduate degree in climate science, oceanography, conservation biology, biology, environmental planning, geography, environmental policy, or relevant field.

Skills: Excellent written and communication skills. Scientific understanding of coastal and marine ecology, climate resiliency, and related topics. Ability to work with a variety of people from diverse socio-economic and cultural backgrounds. Ability to endure physically demanding field conditions including but not limited to extreme weather conditions, walking long distances, and lifting equipment and supplies over 40 lbs. Excellent coordination, leadership, writing, communication, and management skills.

Experience: Professional experience in marine sciences, conservation, natural solutions to climate change or a relevant field. Applicants should have excellent report writing skills and strong experience leading coalitions and leveraging those coalitions for advocacy.

Other Requirements: Must have or be able to obtain a valid California driver license and a valid U.S. passport or U.S. work visa. Must have reliable transportation and be willing to use their own vehicle. Must be able to pass a background check to work with children. Must be willing to travel to Mexico and other international locations. Must be willing to camp in remote coastal areas and travel to offshore sites on a boat.

To Apply: E-mail your cover letter and resume to jobs@wildcoast.org