

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Assistant Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison – Alaska CASC**

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN FISH AND WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

#### INTRODUCTION

The Assistant Alaska Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison (Asst. TCRL) for the Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center (AK CASC) serves to support Alaska Tribes in their climate adaptation science needs collaboratively with guidance and direction from the Senior Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison (Sr. TCRL) of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS). The Asst. TCRL is responsible for working as part of a team with the AK CASC, NAFWS and Sr. TCRL to provide technical assistance and to work with Alaska Tribal communities to expand their capacity to prepare for and respond to climate-related environmental impacts.

The Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center is a formal partnership between the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. NAFWS, in partnership with the AK Climate Adaptation Science Center-USGS, hosts the Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison positions through a cooperative agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Climate Resilience Program.

The Asst. TCRL will be responsible for conducting business in a manner that coincides with the Articles of Incorporation, Strategic Plan, Code of Ethics and other regulations, policies and procedures of NAFWS, as well as applicable USGS policies.

The Asst. TCRL will be involved in situations that are complex, emerging and/or highly sensitive, and is expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times, and to seek guidance and direction on issues from the NAFWS Sr. TCRL and AK CASC leadership.

#### DUTIES

Primary duties include:

- Conduct outreach and programming as part of a team on Tribal climate-impact related issues, concerns, and adaptation strategies across Alaska.
- Assist with collaborative efforts to synthesize and facilitate the sharing and exchanging of climate science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge on climate change among Alaska Native Tribes, climate scientists and adaptation practitioners, with Free, Prior and Informed consent.
- Assist communities to identify and prioritize resilience and adaptation projects.
- Maintain working relationships with relevant local, Tribal, state, and federal personnel and non-governmental organizations.
- Identify Tribal climate science and planning needs by reviewing existing information (workshop, community and climate reports), identify needs through assessments, holding discussions with researchers, or dialog with tribal community members.
- Actively participate in the national BIA affiliated Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison Network to identify climate adaptation research, policy, funding, or other needs for federal partners to advance climate adaptation for Tribes or non-Tribal professionals facing similar climate adaptation challenges.

- Be a part the AK CASC Tribal Resilience Learning Network team to support responsive, emerging and dynamic AK Tribal engagement on climate issues
- Support the development of grant proposals to secure funding for related project implementation, research, and extension projects led by NAFWS, AK CASC, and partners.
- Ten or more instances of work travel are required for this position annually.
- Conduct day-to-day operations in consultation with AK CASC staff and provide weekly updates to the NAFWS Sr. TCRL.
- Develop partnerships with Tribes, federal, state, and non-governmental organizations regarding climate change and Tribal consultation.
- Assist with NAFWS' Education program.
- Assist with the NAFWS National and Regional Conferences as requested and directed by the Sr.TCRL; i.e., assist with Tribal Climate Adaptability and Resilience workshops.
- Other duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/ABILITIES:

- Bachelor's degree in at least one of the following: Alaska Native languages, engineering, physical sciences, biological/ecological sciences, natural resources, or relevant social sciences from an accredited university, AND at least one (1) year of experience supporting Tribal needs related to climate adaptation and other environmental challenges in Alaska. OR
  - Five years of Alaska Tribal/rural Alaska work experience may be substituted for the degree requirement. Experience may include community experience that is paid or volunteer and that demonstrates your involvement, skills, abilities, leadership, community engagement, or contributions.
- Knowledge and experience with traditional ecological knowledge is desired.
- Knowledge of climate change adaptation management in the aforementioned fields.
- Ability to communicate effectively with individuals and groups within government agencies, Tribes, non-government organizations, and other AK CASC stakeholders; and ability to comprehend, articulate and represent diverse interests.
- Ability to articulate relevant climate change-related science issues and projects to Tribal communities, non-scientists, and internal (AK CASC) and external researchers.
- Ability to identify and articulate emerging issues that affect or could affect climate change adaptation of Tribal communities.
- Ability to communicate and coordinate verbally and in writing; willingness and ability to write individually, collaboratively and as a team including reports, publications, correspondence, and other written communication.
- Fluency in an Alaska Native language, especially one highly used by a significant number of Alaska Tribes, is desirable.
- Successful experience in or knowledge of consensus building, group facilitation processes with Tribal communities is desirable.
- American Indian/Alaska Native employment preference: As provided in the NAFWS Policies and Procedures and as authorized by federal law, the NAFWS will provide an employment preference to applicants who are enrolled members of a federally recognized Indian Tribe or an Alaskan village (Must provide completed BIA 4432 form or Certificate of Indian Blood) .

- Veteran employment preference. As provided in the NAFWS Policies and Procedures and as authorized by federal law, the NAFWS will provide an employment preference to applicants who are veterans of the U.S. Armed Services.
- Pre-requisite to receiving employment preference. An applicant shall only receive the employment preference(s) if they demonstrate they possess the education and experience qualifications set forth herein.

#### SUPERVISION RECEIVED

- The applicant is under the direct supervision of the NAFWS Sr. TCRL.

#### SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

- This is not a supervisory position.

#### COMPLEXITY

- Applicant's tasks involve working with and through many different groups with a wide diversity of interests to achieve the overall mission and goals of the NAFWS and the BIA and USGS shared priorities around climate change and adaptability for Tribes.
- Applicant must be able to work effectively with the NAFWS membership, Alaska Native Tribes and assist them with issues or concern
- All duties and actions of the applicant must be carried out in a manner that maintains harmonious working relations with the various interest groups.

#### PERSONAL CONTACTS

- Internal contact with NAFWS membership, staff and Board of Directors occurs on a regular basis. Other contacts with various Tribal, federal, and state agencies will be on a frequent basis.

#### PHYSICAL DEMANDS

- This position requires a significant amount of travel which can be very demanding. The majority of work time will be spent in an office environment and includes standard demands associated with this setting. Minimal lifting of office equipment, supplies, and other work office environment items may be required. A minimum of 20 pounds may be required to be lifted. The incumbent must demonstrate flexibility and self-motivation. The incumbent must be able to perform physical activities associated with fisheries and wildlife activities.

#### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- The Asst. TCRL is a full-time position with duty station to be Anchorage, Fairbanks, or Juneau, AK. The Asst. TCRL's work is divided among extension support (70%), research (20%), and coordination of other Tribal climate science liaisons nationwide (10%).

#### EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Native American Fish and Wildlife Society is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in any personnel practice. As provided in federal law, the NAFWS does provide employment preferences for Native Americans and veterans of U.S. Armed Services.

Incumbent will be subject to a pre-employment background check and reference checks. Must possess a valid Driver's license.

Will be required to serve a 90-day probation period.