



Job Description Form

Senior Scientific Officer

Position Number:	11425	Portfolio:	Climate and Sustainability
Classification:	Specified Calling Level 3	Reports to:	Principal Scientific Officer, SCL4
Location:	Joondalup	Direct Reports:	Nil

Description

The Senior Scientific Officer performs a range of water-related tasks, including implementing legislation; drafting legal instruments, policy, drinking water source protection reports and related guidance materials; and providing technical and scientific advice to inform our stakeholders' decision-making processes that apply in drinking water source areas. Advice is also provided to government, licensed water service providers, developers, industry and other external stakeholders on protecting lower-cost, good-quality sources of drinking water that are required to meet the needs of a growing population in a changing climate. These management measures aim to secure reliable, safe, good-quality, lower-cost drinking water for consumers and protect public health, now and in the future.

Responsibilities

In context of above description, the role:

- Provide professional and technical advice on complex and strategic water source protection matters, including water and land-use planning, mining proposals, source risk assessment, and stakeholder engagement.
- Carries out investigation, research, analysis and evaluations under limited direction.
- Provides detailed consultation and advises on policy and best practice management matters, including recommending changes.
- Drafts legal instruments and implements legislation and policy.
- Devises and documents procedures for complex investigations.
- Interprets the results of research/analysis carried out by officers at lower classification levels.
- Coordinates and instructs professional and support staff, including as a project leader.
- Reviews and prepares drinking water source protection reports, research and/or technical papers for use by management and/or publication on more complex investigations.
- Advises on planning major projects and equipment purchase programs.
- Liaises at a high professional level with officers of other Divisions and Departments.
- Liaises with external bodies, including making public presentations on drinking water source protection. Undertakes additional duties as required within the skills and scope of the position capabilities and departmental needs

Our people, our leaders, our values

At DWER, every employee is a leader. To support this, we have established clear [Leadership Expectations](#). For this role, you will be a [Personal Leader](#). Demonstrating the expected behaviours is crucial and aligned with the role's requirements.

Our culture is shaped by our [values](#). All employees are expected to uphold equity, diversity and inclusion, work health and safety, and ethical principles in all aspects of their work. This includes demonstrating



cultural responsiveness by valuing diverse perspectives and contributing to culturally safe, inclusive, and trusted services – particularly for Aboriginal people and communities.

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Work Related Requirements

Read these requirements in context of the above contents.

1. You have a Bachelor of Science or an approved equivalent qualification in a relevant discipline
2. You have considerable experience applying knowledge in scientific disciplines such as hydrology or water resource management to assess environmental conditions and contribute robust scientific interpretations (*you think through complexity*).
3. You have well-developed project management skills, using your experience in planning, coordinating, and delivering climate science and/or water resource projects to achieve high-quality outcomes that support team and agency priorities (*you deliver on high-leverage areas*).
4. You have considerable experience developing, reviewing, and implementing policy, processes, and procedures, applying analytical judgement to ensure they remain effective, fit-for-purpose, and responsive to changing operational needs (*you lead adaptively*).
5. You have well-developed interpersonal skills and extensive experience working with a wide range of stakeholders to negotiate, collaborate, and achieve agreed outcomes while representing the organisation with professionalism and integrity (*you embody the spirit of public service*).
6. You have well-developed communication skills with considerable experience translating complex scientific and technical information into clear, accessible messages tailored to diverse audiences to support shared understanding (*you lead collectively*).

Special Requirements

- The department will conduct a national police check before offering employment.
- This position requires a 'C' class drivers licence.