Geologic/Watershed Field Technician

Pacific Watershed Associates is seeking a Geologic/Watershed Technician to serve as a core member of our inter-disciplinary team performing watershed restoration planning, design, and construction projects throughout Northern and Central California.

Pacific Watershed Associates Inc. (PWA) is a full service geologic and engineering consulting firm with offices in Humboldt and Sonoma Counties of northern California. PWA specializes in science-based management solutions for watershed, forest, riverine and coastal habitats as well as rural development projects. PWA includes a staff of 40 full-time geologists, engineers, geomorphologists, hydrologists, stormwater specialists, watershed scientists, biologists, technicians, and associated support personnel. PWA is committed to providing and maintaining a professional organization and working environment for all our employees. Our aim is to continue to grow the organization by working together with a common purpose and vision to provide the very best products and services to our clients and our community and conduct environmentally beneficial projects.

PWA is seeking qualified applicants for the entry level position of Geologic/Watershed Technician based in our small Petaluma (Sonoma County) satellite office with 4-8 local staff. Working under the direct supervision of Petaluma’s Senior Professional Geologist/Program Manager in collaboration with PWA Principals, Senior Scientists and Project Managers, the Geologic/Watershed Technician will work under the responsible charge of a licensed PWA professional to assist with evaluations and assessments to develop, design, and oversee construction of stream habitat restoration, water resources, water quality, transportation, and rural development projects.

Typical Projects Include:

- Watershed assessments, erosion control and sediment source inventories, land development surveys, and environmental compliance evaluations
- Bridge and stream crossing designs for rural roads
- Site remediation evaluation, planning, design, implementation, monitoring and inspection
- Storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) design, monitoring, inspection, and sampling
- Hillslope, embankment, and stream channel stability assessment, design and construction planning
- Watershed (in-stream and upslope) habitat restoration, enhancement, and rehabilitation
- Cannabis and Vineyard regulatory compliance

Typical Responsibilities:

- Conduct field-based assessments, evaluations, inventories, and data collection on a wide range of properties: small and large acreages; remote rural and urban settings; and variable land uses (timber, vineyards, cannabis cultivation sites, construction sites; county, regional, state, and federal park lands, private residences, etc.)
- Collect field data using variety and range of technologically advanced methods and equipment (i.e. clinometer, rangefinder, GPS, tablets, hand level, total station, etc.)
- Enter field data utilizing MS Excel and MS Access
- Download and/or digitize field data from Avenza, GPS or mylar overlays of field maps utilizing Google Earth and ArcGIS
- Manage time and work efficiently
- Collaborate and communicate effectively as part of the PWA team
• Organize and maintain field data for several projects simultaneously
• Work collaboratively with partner organizations, regulatory agencies, and private landowners
• Assist PWA staff in preparing accurate and grammatically correct technical documents, grant proposals and permit applications for natural resource related projects
• Oversee heavy equipment operations during the implementation of erosion control, sediment reduction, and watershed restoration projects
• Perform site inspections, monitoring, and sampling as required to meet project compliance

Required Qualifications, Skills and Abilities:
• Bachelor’s degree in Geology is preferred; but related fields will be considered: Natural Resources, Hydrology, Engineering, etc.
• Experience in field survey techniques (tape/pace and compass, clinometer, level/total station) and mapping using contour, imagery, and/or LIDAR based field maps and tablets
• Understanding of geomorphic processes, hydrology, storm water issues and watershed/habitat restoration techniques: instream bioengineering and bank stabilization, riparian revegetation, LWD enhancement
• Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel), Adobe Suite and high level of organizational skills
• Ability to work independently and collaboratively; positive attitude/team player
• Enthusiasm for professional development, identifies as a self-starter, takes initiative, and eager to learn
• Values contribution and collaboration among our local PWA staff with support and cooperation with other local professionals and PWA’s Humboldt County staff/resources
• Willing to provide, accept and learn from constructive criticism
• Ability to smoothly coordinate & communicate with other professional & technical staff
• Able to remain flexible with the changing workload, timelines, and project requirements
• Ability to carry moderately heavy loads, work/hike on steep, uneven terrain in inclement weather
• Ability for out of town travel for several days (overnight) as needed. Travel primarily within Northern and Central California, typically seasonally, sometimes may require remote camping
• Current driver’s license, safe driving record, ability to operate 4-wheel drive trucks (automatic and standard transmission) and all-terrain vehicles (ATV)

Training:
PWA will provide training associated with watershed erosion assessment, rural road construction, road management practices, road storm-proofing and decommissioning protocols as well as watershed restoration techniques, land development, storm water management solutions, and environmental regulatory compliance. We encourage a strong desire to obtain registration(s), professional license(s), certification(s), and additional professional training(s).

Position Details:
This position is classified as full time, hourly. Work week Monday through Thursday is typical but can be flexible. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. Full-time employee benefit package includes medical (PWA partial contribution) after 60 days, paid time off accrual starts after 90 days, 401k plan with employer match contribution, company cell phone, and free $25,000 term life insurance. PWA is an Equal Opportunity Employer

How to Apply:
Please send cover letter, resume, and three references in one attachment with your name to:
PWPetaluma@pacificwatershed.com
Please write “Geologic/Watershed Technician” in the subject line.
Resumes without a cover letter or contact information for references may not be considered.
See our website for more information about PWA: https://www.pacificwatershed.com/

No phone calls will be accepted. Applications accepted and position(s) open until filled.