

POSITION SUMMARY – RIVER SCIENTIST

Headwaters Corporation is seeking an experienced scientist with expertise in fluvial geomorphology and/or riparian plant ecology to join a team that conducts interdisciplinary research with a focus on implementation of the [Platte River Recovery Implementation Program](#) (PRRIP). Headwaters serves in a unique role as a private consulting firm that carries out the day-to-day functions of PRRIP implementation by providing the Executive Director and all staff. This includes PRRIP administration, managing the PRRIP's land and water resources, and implementation of a robust science program that used adaptive management and other science tools to inform the use of those resources. *Candidates must have the independent drive to tackle complex, multidisciplinary problems and the desire to work for a small firm.*

This position will be focused on implementation of PRRIP's Science Plan, specifically implementation of monitoring and research including the relationship between channel morphology and invasive riparian vegetation, evaluation of large-scale sediment augmentation implementation, and design and implementation of research to assess the ability to manage riparian vegetation using large-scale flow releases.

Major duties include, but are not limited to:

- Field and remote data collection in a riverine environment; data management, analysis, and evaluation.
- Interpretation and synthesis of topographic, hydrologic, hydraulic, vegetation, spatial, and environmental data.
- Development and interpretation of empirical and numerical models.
- Preparing technical reports and scientific manuscripts in conjunction with other staff.

Highly Desirable Characteristics:

- Experience designing and implementing field work on highly dynamic river/wetland systems.
- Broad-based background in watershed processes (vegetation community dynamics, river and groundwater hydraulics, geomorphology, and river/wetland ecology).
- Knowledge of and facility with statistical analysis techniques, modeling using various platforms or tools, R, GIS, databases.
- Experience with aquatic restoration/management projects and working at the intersection of river process/function, vegetation and endangered species ecology.
- Experience that includes establishing goals and objectives and developing and managing a budget to achieve goals and objectives.
- Mature judgment, initiative, imagination, resourcefulness, energy, tact, and integrity.

Headwaters' main office is located in Kearney, NE, near the midpoint of the PRRIP Associated Habitat Reach (AHR). This is the ninety-mile reach of the central Platte extending from Lexington, NE to Chapman, NE where most of the PRRIP work occurs on the ground. Headwaters' science staff are located in Kearney, water/engineering staff are based in Headwaters' Lakewood, CO office, and our geoscientists are based in Fort Collins, CO. This position supports the Kearney, NE office. Periodic travel throughout NE, CO and WY for meetings and conferences (3 - 5 days a month) will also be necessary.

EDUCATION

M.S. in Environmental Engineering, Geosciences, Riparian or Wetland Ecology or related technical field required in addition to a willingness to pursue relevant professional registration (Eg. EIT, PE, PG, PH, CFM, PWS) or terminal degree (Ph.D.).

EXPERIENCE

Minimum of 3 years of progressively responsible professional experience. Strongly prefer candidates with at least 5 – 8 years of directly relevant experience.

BENEFITS

Headwaters Corporation will offer a competitive salary commensurate with experience and qualifications relevant to this position. Starting range of \$70,000-\$80,000/year.

Headwaters offers an excellent compensation and benefits package including medical, dental, and life insurance; a 401(K) plan; and paid vacation time and holidays. Headwaters Corporation is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

APPLICATION

Applications will be considered until the position is filled. Application materials should be submitted electronically and addressed to:

Bridget Barron, Ph.D.
President and CEO
Headwaters Corporation
4111 4th Avenue, Suite 6
Kearney, NE 68845

Please send a cover letter, resume, and three references in PDF format to Dr. Barron at:
barronb@headwaterscorp.com

OVERVIEW OF HEADWATERS CORPORATION

Headwaters Corporation is a natural resources management consulting firm that specializes in the review and implementation of large-scale endangered species recovery and river restoration programs; management of independent science review processes; planning, design, and implementation of river restoration and wetland mitigation projects; and application of a variety of areas of scientific expertise to project planning, design, and implementation. We have a small, highly qualified team comprised of leading river restoration program managers and adaptive management practitioners, experts in restoration program governance and function, river ecologists, western water resources experts, biologists, geomorphologists, water resources engineers, and land managers. With offices in Nebraska (Kearney and Omaha) and Colorado (Lakewood and Fort Collins), Headwaters Corporation provides a broad range of services to public and private clients. Visit our website at www.headwaterscorp.com for more information on our purpose, our people, and our work.