

# POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position title:	Contract ecologist
Location:	Based at one of the following GeoLINK offices: Armidale, Coffs Harbour or Lennox Head (note: Coffs Harbour is first preference)
Position reports to:	Branch manager
Key working relationships:	Directors, project managers and all other GeoLINK staff, clients, sub-consultants and government agencies

## ROLE

This role is a contract ecologist within our multi-disciplinary team. This diverse role comprises of office based work as well as field work in all terrestrial ecosystems (potentially including working in remote areas for prolonged periods) and requires high level reporting and project management skills and experience. The role is responsible for providing accurate scientific and legislative ecological advice to GeoLINK clients and staff as part of development applications, REFs, EISs, VMPs, species specific management plans, offset plans, consent condition compliance, as well as community projects.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

- Traditional ecological consulting tasks such as:
  - Fauna survey e.g. spotlighting, call playback, Elliot A/B trapping, wire cage trapping, pitfalls, harp trapping, hair tubes, remote cameras, Anabats etc.
  - Vegetation identification, community description, condition and conservation assessment.
  - Mapping and data analysis using ArcGIS.
  - Searches for threatened flora and evaluation of EECs.
  - Habitat evaluation (qualitative and quantitative) and assessment.
- Preparation/ review of the full spectrum of scientific-based statutory planning and environmental assessment and management reports e.g. statutory ecological impact assessments, constraints assessments, vegetation management plans, rehabilitation plans, koala management plans, flora and fauna management plans, nest box strategies, translocation plans, MNES assessments, weed management plans, nest box strategies, threatened species management plans, offset assessments etc.
- Preparation and review of REFs and EISs including coordination of specialists and sub-consultants.
- All facets of project management and delivery, including preparing high level tender/ EOI responses to project budget planning and management; compliance with Quality Control, company policies, etc.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead multidisciplinary teams as required, when/ if in the role of project manager.
- Meet agreed billable targets.
- Keep abreast of changes to environmental technical standards, policies and legislation.
- Adhere to GeoBIZ guidelines (GeoLINK's minimum quality assurance standards).
- Adhere to all WHS statutory guidelines.

## EDUCATION/ QUALIFICATIONS

### Essential

- Undergraduate Bachelor of Science/ Environmental Science/ Applied Science/ Natural Resource Management or equivalent in related discipline, with high levels of academic achievement.
- Maintain a current State Class 1A Driver's Licence.

### Desirable

- Post graduate qualifications in a relevant field.
- Membership of a relevant and accredited professional association.
- Accreditation as an assessor to utilise the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM).

## EXPERIENCE/ SKILLS

### Essential

- Minimum experience of five years in environmental/ ecological consulting. Similar experience in local or state government preparing or assessing similar duties will be considered on merit.
- Proven ability to write clear, concise and scientifically accurate reports such as REF, EIS, SIS, VMPs, offset strategies, species specific management plans, weed management plans, nest box management plans.
- Extensive demonstrated knowledge of techniques, government standards/ policies and experience in the delivery of all aspects and scales of ecological field surveys and statutory assessments for both flora and fauna.
- Extensive experience in interpreting and applying relevant environmental legislation (NSW and Commonwealth as a minimum).
- Intermediate level of GIS skills i.e. ability to interrogate data and prepare ecological attribute maps.
- High level fauna and botanical skills i.e. identification, vegetation community mapping, biometrics, etc.
- Very high level of self-motivation, self-discipline, initiative and demonstrated ability to manage the position's responsibility; and perform complex tasks and manage projects with minimal supervision.
- Thorough understanding of WH&S requirements and obligations.

**APPROVAL – BRANCH LEADER**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCEPTED – EMPLOYEE (CONTRACT ECOLOGIST)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_