

Position Title:	Principal Ecologist
Location	Coffs Harbour, Lennox Head or Armidale Offices
Line Manager:	Branch Manager
Key working relationships:	Directors, project managers and all other GeoLINK employees, clients, sub-consultants and stakeholders

ROLE

The Principal Ecologist is responsible for managing and leading the ecological team in problem-solving and devising solutions to complex ecological issues, preparing and reviewing fee proposals, writing and reviewing technical reports, and conducting field investigations across various terrestrial ecosystems.

You will contribute to high-level reporting, providing ecological advice and support, and the identification of environmental constraints and opportunities across multiple-disciplinary projects.

The role includes mentoring GeoLINK staff and leading inter-disciplinary project teams within the company and subcontractors and subconsultants on a project-by-project needs basis.

You will also be available to travel and work away from home for extended periods of time, typically in NSW mid-north coast, NSW northern tablelands and northern NSW.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Undertake ecological assessment and fieldwork in accordance with current guidelines (e.g. the Biodiversity Assessment Method), such as:
 - Vegetation surveys, including vegetation stratification, identification of plant community type and associated threatened ecological communities.
 - Targeted threatened flora and fauna surveys.
 - In-field collection of data using ArcGIS apps (FieldMaps, Survey123, Quick Capture, etc.) and associated review of GIS data.
- Willingness to undertake occasional remote work.
- Preparation of clear and concise technical reports (e.g., BARs, BSSARs, BDARs, REFs, EISs, SISs, VMPs, offset strategies, species-specific management plans, weed management plans, nest box management plans).
- Advanced ability to produce high quality reports and review reports prepared by others, ensuring scientific accuracy and clarity.
- Preparation of tenders and fee proposals, budget and resource planning, managing staff, project delivery and review.
- Lead multi-disciplinary teams.
- Develop new business relationships and develop new business opportunities.
- Keeping up to date with standards, research, policies and legislation.
- Adhere to company policies and procedures.
- Adhere to all WHS statutory guidelines, company requirements and obligations.
- Recognise opportunities for improvement and innovation.
- Commit to sustainability principles and maintain environmental awareness.

EDUCATION/ QUALIFICATIONS

Essential

- Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) accreditation.
- Tertiary qualification (minimum bachelor) in ecology, zoology, botany, environmental or applied science, natural resource management or a related discipline, from an accredited institution, with high levels of academic achievement.
- Current State Class C Driver Licence and ability to drive manual vehicles.

Desirable

- Post-graduate qualification in a relevant field.
- Membership of a relevant and accredited professional association.
- 4WD experience or training.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Minimum of fifteen years of professional experience in ecological or environmental consulting, including demonstrated capability in leading and managing complex projects. Experience in local or state government preparing or assessing similar duties will also be considered.
- Proven ability to write clear and concise technical reports (e.g., BARs, BSSARs, BDARs, REFs, EISs, SISs, VMPs, offset strategies, species-specific management plans, weed management plans, nest box management plans).
- Extensive experience in delivering all aspects and scales of ecological field surveys and statutory assessments, including knowledge of techniques, government standards/ policies, and a proven track record of successful project delivery.
- Extensive experience in interpreting and applying relevant environmental legislation (NSW and Commonwealth).
- High level fauna and botanical identification skills (NSW North Coast and/ or New England Tablelands).
- Ability to collect and review field data using ArcGIS apps (FieldMaps, Survey123, Quick Capture, etc.).
- Competence working with Microsoft Office software.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- High level of self-discipline and initiative to perform complex tasks.
- Extensive project management skills.
- Demonstrated commitment to professional development and continuous improvement.
- Thorough understanding of WHS requirements and obligations within the context of fieldwork activities.

APPROVED – BRANCH MANAGER

Name:

Signature:

Date:

ACCEPTED – EMPLOYEE

Name:

Signature:

Date: