

SANTA YNEZ RIVER LAGOON BERM MONITOR

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, a Santa Ynez River Lagoon Berm Monitor (Monitor) will assist in monitoring the status of the sand berm at the outlet of the Santa Ynez River to the Pacific Ocean. The task will entail driving to Ocean Park (or in close proximity if the Park is closed) at the end of Highway 246 and recording if the sand berm has been breached and if there is river connectivity to the ocean (Figure 1). Ocean-river connectivity enables steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) migration to and from the ocean and the Santa Ynez River. Monitoring frequency will depend on the flow condition of the river. Steelhead are an endangered species and the Santa Ynez River watershed contains excellent spawning, rearing, and over summering habitat for these iconic and endangered species.



Figure 1: The monitoring location at Ocean Park and general photographs of when the lagoon was closed and open.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

The Santa Ynez River Lagoon Berm Monitor is a temporary part-time employee of the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board (COMB) and is assigned under an employee services agreement. The Monitor will collect field observations and provide that information to the Fisheries Division Manager at a frequency appropriate for the objective of the task.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Duties include assisting in, but are not limited to, the following:

- Monitoring the status of the Santa Ynez River sand berm (open or closed). The task requires writing down minor notes of your observations as well as any specifics relating to fish migration in the river. The observations will be recorded on provided datasheets and provided to the Fisheries Division Manager as conditions change;
- Monitoring frequency will depend on the time of year and weather. If the river is flowing but the lagoon hasn't been breached, the frequency will be frequent. If conditions are dry and the tide and surf aren't posing a potential to open the lagoon, then the frequency will be monthly. Monitoring the closure of the lagoon will depend on the hydrological (flow) condition of the river and ocean wave and tide conditions; and
- The monitoring point will be Ocean Park at the end of Highway 246, or the hill above Ocean Park if the Park is closed due to being after hours or flooded.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

The Monitor should have the following general knowledge of:

- River flow and weather conditions; and
- Basic knowledge of the life history strategy of an anadromous (fresh water to the ocean and back) fish;

Santa Ynez River Berm Monitor should possess the following abilities to:

- Be able to work independently under minor supervision;
- Be physically fit enough to walk a short distance on trails;
- Have a personal vehicle that will be used to drive to Ocean Park;
- Be able to use binoculars to conduct field observations;
- Write legibly for recording field observations;
- Clean driving record with the ability to drive occasionally in inclement weather;
- Understand and follow oral and written instructions;
- Read, write, and speak English fluently;

- Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing; and
- Access to a computer to transmit recorded data; this would be helpful but not a requirement.

EDUCATION

High school diploma or GED equivalent.

EXPERIENCE

Applicants should have some experience in the collection of field data, but not required.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have a valid California driver's license and an insurable driving record. Applicant must pass a pre-employment physical, which includes drug screening.

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Requires the ability to drive from your house to the monitoring site and back. Once at the monitoring site, the employee must walk a short distance on a trail that is paved in some places and dirt in others. The only tools needed for the task is a pair of binoculars and a clipboard to record your observations that will be provided by COMB.

Worker may be exposed to adverse environmental conditions, including but not limited to extreme temperatures (heat and cold), wetness, humidity, etc. Must be willing to work irregular hours, weekends and holidays as necessary. Must be able to maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception needed for making observations, communicating with others. Must have their own cell phone and be able to use a telephone to communicate verbally and it would be helpful to have computer access to communicate observation data.

COMPENSATION

COMB will pay an hourly wage of \$18 per hour and will reimburse for actual mileage at the current reimbursement rate set forth by the IRS for business use of an automobile.

JOB APPLICATION INFORMATION

The job description (above) and application can be found at the COMB webpage (<https://www.cachuma-board.org>) or by request calling the Fisheries Division Manager (Tim Robinson) at 805-687-4011 x215..