



KWIAKAH FIRST NATION

Job Description

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| Position: | Forest Keeper |
| Reports to: | Program Manager, Forest Keepers |
| Date: | August 2023 |

Position Summary:

Reporting to the Program Manager, the Forest Keeper will work collaboratively within a team whose focus will be rooted in regenerative forestry and increasing the Kwiakah First Nation (KFN) presences in the land, conducting surveys, research, monitoring and collecting data on the ecological health within the territory.

This is a 24/7 work camp environment with a rotating schedule of 10 days on duty and 4 days off. The schedule may be subject to fluctuations based on the needs of the program. Marine Guardians must be adaptable and willing to adjust their work hours accordingly

Position Responsibilities:

Program

- Providing a Forest Keeper presence throughout the territory on behalf of the Kwiakah First Nation
- Conducting patrols throughout the territory
- Engaging with all visitors on the KFN traditional territory, providing information, and offering assistance where necessary
- Interacting with resource users, including sports fishermen, and other commercial operators
- Assisting and responding to community emergencies such as wildlife encounters that require immediate attention
- Wearing the proper uniform and having the appropriate safety supplies available in the course of duty

Monitoring & Data Collection

- Collecting and recording data, related to the health of Phillips Arm ecological and cultural values and the impacts of resource use on these values including:
 - Monitoring human use, tourism, and wildlife sightings throughout territory
 - Monitoring and reporting resource violations/infractions of our indigenous laws as well as federal/provincial regulations
 - Monitoring all fisheries, including food fishing, commercial fishery, sport fishers
 - Monitoring and documenting hunting activities



KWIAKAH FIRST NATION

- Working with elders to document cultural sites and monitoring impacts
- Entering data on a daily/weekly basis into the database and data is kept secure
- Reporting on results of all monitoring efforts to the Program Manager in a timely manner
- Supporting land use plan initiatives and priorities (such as Grizzly Bears)

Forest Issue Management:

- Responding professionally to violations in an appropriate manner by approaching resource users and documenting relevant information
- Supporting the response to community reports regarding illegal or suspicious activities in the KFN territory

Administration and Education:

- Supporting joint patrols with relevant enforcement agencies where appropriate
- Conducting, community outreach and education
- Other duties as assigned

Education & Experience

- High School diploma with 3 years of general work experience required.
- Post-secondary training and or equivalent work experience in Forestry an asset.
- Minimum 3 years' experience working with Indigenous communities and organizations.
- Knowledge of Kwiakah First Nation territory and values
- Familiarity with indigenous laws as well as federal and provincial rules and regulations
- Proficient computer skills, including Word, Excel, email and using handheld devices
- Experience working in an online environment
- Small Vessel Operator Proficiency and Radio Operators Certificates are required.
- Radio Operator Certificate is required. Training will be provided.
- Marine Emergency Certificate
- Wilderness First Aid

Other Desired Qualifications

- Strong communication skills and be able to interact with visitors and resource users in a polite and positive manner
- Confident, comfortable, and assertive in addressing violation issues with community members and resource users
- Dependable, motivated and demonstrates a strong work ethic
- Shows initiative and is a team player
- Demonstrates a strong commitment to protecting the health of the KFN territory and culture
- Ability to work irregular work hours, including overnight and in isolated conditions.



KWIAKAH FIRST NATION

Working Conditions

This field position requires working extensively under isolated conditions on the territory, including in the forest, marine and lake environments. The working conditions are rugged terrain, boat work on rough waters, and under sometimes extreme weather conditions that can change rapidly. You must demonstrate that you are comfortable in the outdoors and have the necessary first aid and safety training to be safe on the job.

Physical Requirements

The Forest Keeper position is physically demanding and will include travel in rough weather on a boat, hiking long distances on the territory, and moving and/or packing equipment to remote sites. Applicants must be in good physical health to carry out the job effectively without injury.