Water Agency Senior Environmental Specialist - Tribal Liaison

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County of Sonoma, Human Resources Dept.

Santa Rosa, California

Job Type	Permanent
Salary	$115,167.28 - $139,983.14 per year
Deadline	Oct 12, 2026
Min. Experience	0 - 1 year

County of Sonoma

Santa Rosa, CA

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Closing Date: 10/12/2026 11:59 PM Pacific

The Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water) seeks a Water Agency Senior Environmental Specialist to join our team as a Tribal Liaison!

Sonoma Water is seeking a Water Agency Senior Environmental Specialist to serve as the Agency's Tribal Liaison. This position will be responsible for establishing and fostering positive and constructive relationships with Tribes regarding Sonoma Water's water supply, flood control, sanitation, climate adaptation, and regional watershed management activities in the Russian River watershed. In this liaison role, you will work to build trust, enhance understanding, and support advancement of these activities. Other duties of this position include:

- Preparing and reviewing documents in compliance with state, federal, and local environmental laws and regulations; land use planning projects; grant applications; and right-of-way activities
- Planning and reviewing work related to evaluation and consideration of cultural and tribal resources
- Communicating and delivering project information to Tribal representatives and governments as needed to engage Tribal participation or consultation on Sonoma Water projects and initiatives
- Coordinating with Tribal representatives and governments in their review of Sonoma Water projects and environmental documents to facilitate receipt of and responses to Tribal comments

- Managing agreements with consultant archeologists and drafting and managing Tribal monitoring agreements
- Attending meetings (in the office, virtual, or in the field) with staff and managers from other Sonoma Water divisions
- Regularly updating and working with the Environmental Resources Division Manager and Executive Team to develop and implement strategic positions supporting tribal consultations

The ideal candidate will possess experience in natural resources, water resources planning, and/or community liaison experience, and many of the following:

- Experience negotiating with Tribal communities and governments, regulatory agencies, and other project stakeholders
- Excellent understanding and in-depth knowledge of Native American culture, history, tradition, perspectives and experiences
- An understanding of tribal communities and governance in the Russian River watershed and/or San Francisco Bay region
- Demonstrated knowledge of government-to-government sovereignty protocols
- Demonstrated knowledge of AB 52 and the CEQA environmental review process for Tribal stakeholders
- Strong stakeholder relationships with Native American Tribal governments and Tribal communities, demonstrated experience with Tribes, and knowledge and experience with industry best practices.
- Experience organizing and facilitating public and stakeholder meetings, responding to concerns and issues from stakeholders, and gaining consensus on projects

The County of Sonoma offers opportunities for professional growth, a rewarding work environment, flexible work arrangements, and excellent benefits while making a positive impact on the community.

Learn more and apply: https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sonoma/jobs/5459198/water-agency-senior-environmental-specialist-tribal-liaison

How To Apply

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