



Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

SOLICITATION:

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

RFA NUMBER:

3140001892

TO PROVIDE:

Protected Species Coordinator (PSC)
Contract Worker

ISSUE DATE:

May 29, 2019, 10:00 AM CST

LOCATION:

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
1141 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

CONTACT:

Rickey Kinnard
(228) 523-4147
procurement@dmr.ms.gov

CLOSING DATE AND TIME:

June 14, 2019, 2:00 PM CST

Introduction

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (“MDMR”) is currently seeking a Protected Species Coordinator (PSC) contract worker for the Marine Fisheries Office.

The MDMR manages all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands, and waterfront areas to provide for the balanced commercial, recreational, educational, and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes.

Scope of Work/Job Duties

The PSC will be the point of contact for, but not limited to, the following:

- Emergency response for marine mammals and sea turtles in the event of another spill or disaster;
- Coordination with the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Association (NOAA) on relevant marine mammal and sea turtle projects in MS including, but not limited to, receiving and/or providing updates on restoration projects being conducted in MS related to marine mammals and sea turtles;
- Enhancing the understanding of in-water threats to sea turtles in MS waters (i.e., having a good comprehension of current fisheries operating in state waters, fisheries effort data, dredging programs/projects currently underway, etc.) to help inform sea turtle mortality investigation;
- Support with additional outreach efforts at piers relative to pier-based sea turtle bycatch reduction efforts; and,
- Within the State for NOAA to engage assistance with marine mammal stranding events.

Additional duties for this position include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Coordinating with NOAA’s Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network (STSSN), particularly the MS STSSN State Coordinator, on sea turtle stranding response needs;
- Coordinating with NOAA’s Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program (MMHSRP) coordinators and data diplomat for Health Map to understand data collection, inquiries, and management;
- Providing input to marine mammal and sea turtle state partnership for interactions with fisheries to provide updates to state partnership’s understanding interactions with the shrimp industry, dredging, and other stressors by compiling data on stressor interaction with respective stranding data for marine mammals and sea turtles;
- Coordinating with NOAA in understanding relevant fishery and other impacts to marine mammals in state waters to ensure consistency of information;

- Participating in outreach and engaging with the fishing community within MS Sound waters to provide information on marine mammal and sea turtle interactions;
- Interacting with the shrimping community on behalf of the potential shrimp observer program;
- Coordinating with fisherman and provide oversight to the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) for data, possible observers, and industry interactions;
- Participating and coordinating with the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies, NOAA and the US Fish and Wildlife Service to train the MDMR, the MS Department of Environmental Quality, and other relevant staff to respond to marine mammal and sea turtle strandings; and,
- Performing other duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications

The minimum qualifications the MDMR is seeking for this position include:

- **Education:** A bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university; and,
- **Experience:** Ten (10) years of experience related to the described job duties and marine resource management, which must have included line or functional administrative technical supervision.
- **Substitution Statement:** Related education and related experience may be substituted on an equal basis.
- **Other:** Must possess a valid driver's license (Mississippi residents must have a Mississippi driver's license). MDMR will verify the driver's license.

Compensation and Hours Worked

This position pays \$31.00 per hour and is for 20 hours per week. The MDMR reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to increase the hourly rate of pay and/or hours per week worked in the future based upon merit, cost-of-living increases, or increases in job duties.

Instructions for Applying

- Complete and **sign** the attached Application (all requested information must be completed.)
- Attach a resume describing your education and prior work history, including relevant work experience.
- Attach a list of at least three references (name and current contact information). References familiar with your job performance skills are preferable. If MDMR is unable to contact your references based upon the contact information you provide, your application may be rejected.

You may submit your application packet (all of the above) in one of three ways:

- Via email to procurement@dmr.ms.gov;
- Via U.S. mail, postage prepaid, to:
 - Rickey Kinnard, Procurement Director, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530; or,
- Via hand delivery to Rickey Kinnard at the above address.

The **deadline** for receiving applications is **June 14, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.** Late applications will not be accepted.

You may be required to interview in person at MDMR in Biloxi, Mississippi, or by telephone.

Questions/Requests for Clarification

All questions and requests for clarification must be submitted by email to:
procurement@dmr.ms.gov

The MDMR will not be bound by any verbal or written information that is not specified within this Request for Applications unless issued in writing by the contact person.

Equal Opportunity Statement

MDMR will select the candidate for these services without regard to political affiliation, race, color, handicap, genetic information, religion, national origin, sex, religious creed, age, or disability.