**JOB TITLE: Laboratory and Field Manager**

**Organization:**

Sierra Streams Institute is a watershed monitoring, research, restoration and educational group based in Nevada City, California in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Our mission is to promote community stewardship and scientific knowledge of watersheds through monitoring, research, restoration and education. Sierra Streams has grown to become a vitally important voice in the regional scientific community. We have accumulated 20 years of water quality, biological and chemical data from local streams and rivers and have used that data to promote changes in policy and practices in our local and regional area. We work with local, state and federal agencies as well as tribes, land trusts, universities and non-profits to find solutions to the problems that afflict watersheds throughout the region that share the challenges resulting from a century of gold mining, development and agriculture. Sierra Streams has developed a reputation over the course of its 23 year history for the rigor of its science, its ability to foster community stewardship of creeks, and its many collaborative efforts with a wide range of groups, schools and agencies.

**JOB SUMMARY:**

The Laboratory and Field Manager at Sierra Streams Institute manages the chemistry lab and leads our watershed monitoring program.

**KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES**: ecological monitoring, volunteer training

**KEY TASKS:**

* Field collection of water quality data
* Field collection of algae, bacteria and stream macroinvertebrates for lab analysis
* Field assessments of stream physical habitat
* Assist in restoration work
* Assist with mammal and other wildlife surveys
* Run all equipment currently in the chemistry and biology labs as well as new equipment when introduced to the lab.
* Train volunteers in field protocols for the collection of water, macroinvertebrates, algae, bacteria, physical habitat and other samples.
* Train volunteers in macroinvertebrate identification
* Conduct chemical analysis of nutrients in water, including nitrates, phosphates and ammonia using colorimetric methods.
* Conduct analysis of E. coli bacteria samples.
* Conduct analysis of soil, water, tissue samples for mercury using the Hydra C Mercury Analyzer.
* Review water quality, physical habitat, algae, bacteria and macroinvertebrate protocols and assure compliance with the Quality Assurance Plan as authorized by the State Water Board.
* Microscope identification of stream macroinvertebrates that serve as indicators of stream health.
* Enter monthly monitoring data into database
* Perform storm water collection and assays (including Mercury)
* Prepare standard solutions as needed.
* Keep glassware clean and in working order.
* Perform lab quality assurance: meter calibrations, standard solution evaluation, review calibration book , review intercalibration process and data, review and comply with State quality assurance recommendations.
* Prepare monitoring reports for the Technical Advisory Committee
* Assist in writing grant applications & search for new grant opportunities
* Assist in using statistical programs to analyze data for publication
* Display project results in power-point presentations
* Educate volunteers/citizen scientists about importance and use of monitoring data
* Write summaries of existing data for inclusion in restoration planning documents and scientific publications
* Publish scientific articles discussing monitoring results.
* Create charts and graphs to display water quality, chemical and biological data to scientists and community members.
* Research new lab techniques such as eDNA
* Perform GIS mapping and analysis
* Assist other staff scientists as needed
* Develop citizen science projects
* Recruit and manage volunteers and interns for monitoring, chemical and biological lab analysis
* Manage monitoring budgets
* Research and buy lab equipment

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

* Bachelor’s Degree preferred in biology, chemistry, environmental science or related field.
* Conscientious, positive, self-motivated and excellent organizational skills.
* Able to complete projects on time and a drive to do what it takes to get the job done well.
* Ability to work cooperatively with staff, volunteers and partners.
* Computer skills required, including proficiency with Word and Excel. GIS and statistical knowledge a plus.
* Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
* Able to do occasional evening and weekend work.

**HOURS/WEEK: 20-25**

**COMPENSATION**: Commensurate with experience. Health benefits.

**APPLICATION INFORMATION**: Position is open until filled.

Please submit cover letter and resume electronically to Joanne Hild, Executive Director.

joanne@sierrastreams.org.