



## **Title: Terrestrial Biologist**

**Location: Kelowna, BC or Castlegar, BC**

### **Position Overview:**

Reporting to the Environment Lead, this position is responsible for managing and providing oversight on the Terrestrial Resource Management Risk Area, one of the eight key environmental risks under the FortisBC Environmental Management System.

This role will focus primarily on Electric and Gas Operations, and will manage regulatory risks associated with terrestrial environments under the Species at Risk Act and the Provincial Wildlife Act.

This is a temporary position (2 Year) with possibility of extension.

### **Key Accountabilities:**

- Working closely with Electric PMO and Environment team, responsible for designing and providing quality assurance with programs associated with species at risk and specific project environmental management programs.
- Advise on operational and project decisions to mitigate/minimize impacts that may have regulatory, Indigenous groups, operations, and/or social implications.
- Establish and maintain effective relationship with stakeholders, customers, contractors, internal departments, and 3rd party contracts. Represent company interests and update project and business team members on areas of potential change.
- Work closely with FortisBC staff, consultants, community stakeholders, regulatory agencies and Indigenous groups in providing advice on terrestrial issues associated with both operations and maintenance activities and capital projects.
- Act as subject matter expert (SME) for terrestrial issues, with a critical recognition of business requirements, risks and opportunities.
- Manage the Terrestrial Resource Management Risk Area identified under the FortisBC Environmental Management System, which includes responsibility for providing technical direction, resource planning, budget planning and contract management for activities under this Risk Area
- Manage consultant contracts including developing terms of reference, evaluating proposals, overseeing budgets and deliverables to meet project timelines.
- Engage and liaise with regulators on terrestrial issues which includes determining the regulatory requirements, and developing and implementing the programs required to address those requirements.
- Provide support for engagement with Indigenous groups, and other interested parties on potential effects of FortisBC Generation Operations and projects, as well as those under Gas Division projects and Operations.
- Work with Transmission and Distribution Operations and other business groups to strategize on program development and long term planning.
- Provide technical support to programs to help determine corrective actions for studies, operations, or project mitigation plans.

- Participate on internal and external committees, which can include multiple stakeholders representing a variety of interests, towards a resolution on program plans.
- Prepare study reports, briefings, presentations and published works in support of Terrestrial Issues and/or programs.
- Critically review reports and communications in consideration of program scope, scientific integrity, business requirements and audience.
- Special projects as required.

### **Requirements:**

#### **Education and Experience:**

- Bachelor's Degree in Biology or equivalent education from an accredited post-secondary institution, with a minimum of seven (7) years of related experience working under the Federal Species at Risk Act and Grassland ecosystems.
- Must be registered or ability to be registered with a Professional Biology designation in BC.
- Valid BC Driver's License.
- Experience with terrestrial resource management assessment and management associated with electric and/or gas operations would be an asset.

#### **Technical Competencies:**

- Demonstrated in-depth working knowledge of Federal Species at Risk Act and other legislation, regulations, bylaws (federal, provincial, municipal, and First Nations) as related to environmental risk management.
- Knowledge of working in a regulated utility
- Demonstrated ability to exercise professional judgment in the handling of confidential information
- Demonstrated ability to use personal influence to achieve positive working relationships
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as a team member
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in business/technical writing
- Demonstrated ability to meet performance metrics/standards within demanding work schedules
- Demonstrated ability to coach and develop others
- Demonstrated ability to work with and prepare accurate and complex reports
- Demonstrated ability to run effective meetings
- Demonstrated ability to apply superior judgment, strategic and innovative thinking in decision making
- Demonstrated analytical and problem solving skills
- Demonstrated interpersonal and conflict resolution skills
- Demonstrated intermediate level computer skills (MS Office Suite)