



Position Announcement – Water Quality Science Associate/Manager

The Ausable River Association (AsRA), a nonprofit conservation organization whose mission is to help communities protect their stream and lakes, seeks a qualified scientist with strong communication skills to advance the goals of our clean water program through water quality monitoring, data assessment, and reporting. AsRA's office is located in Wilmington, New York.

Position Overview

Status:	Full-time exempt
Compensation:	\$40,000 – \$47,500, dependent on experience, with excellent health, dental, vision, savings, and paid time off benefits
Timeline:	Application review begins in late-August 2020; position start ASAP

Position Description

We believe that replicable, science-based water quality monitoring broadens our understanding of and ability to respond to three threats to our focus watersheds: road salt, phosphorus, and climate change. Water quality monitoring is essential to understanding these challenges, developing strategies to mitigate them, establishing goals, and evaluating and quantifying progress toward them.

The water quality science associate or manager (depending on relevant experience) will be supervised by the executive director and will serve as AsRA's primary water quality technician. She/he/they will conduct bi-weekly stream monitoring, regular lake monitoring, and stormwater monitoring; maintain our river temperature gauge network; download data from and maintain buoy sensors on Mirror Lake; and download data from and maintain five continuous monitoring stations near Lake Placid. The capacity to perform analyses of large data sets (30,000+ observations), place them in the context of current scientific literature, write up results, and develop them graphically for various audiences is essential.

The new position will initially focus time on the above long-term monitoring commitments and two existing projects: an effort funded by the Lake Champlain Basin Program to quantify road salt pollution to Mirror Lake and the Chubb River; and, the development, working with property owners, of a lake management plan for Lake Placid. AsRA partners with the Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) and the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. AWI water quality staff and technicians will provide technical expertise and advice for both projects during the transition and as needed in the long-term.

Qualifications

- MS degree in chemistry, limnology, biology, ecology, fisheries or a closely related field and a minimum of 2 years of experience contributing to monitoring, analyzing, and reporting on water quality within the academic, nonprofit, government, or private sectors.
- Experience with a broad range of limnological sampling including: physical, chemical, and biological sampling of lakes, rivers, and streams; lake profile sampling; use of integrated and discrete water

sampling devices; discrete and continuous stream sampling; and benthic macroinvertebrate sampling for water quality assessment.

- Excellent knowledge of data management techniques and relevant quality control methods.
- Proficiency in the use, deployment, and maintenance of YSI sondes, HOB0 and Solinst level loggers.
- Knowledge of basic watershed delineation and modeling, and its relationship to lake and stream functional processes.
- Proficiency with all aspects of Microsoft Excel; facility with Arc GIS, R, Plot.ly, Microsoft Office, and familiarity with Adobe Creative Suite.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills, willingness to interpret and present science to the public in person and via social media, websites, reports and news articles, and an ease with people with diverse backgrounds, education, and experience.
- Dedication to completing sometimes arduous monitoring in rugged wilderness terrain in all weather. Backcountry safety skills and familiarity with the Adirondack Park is desirable.
- Expertise in handling kayaks or canoes, and in operating small motorboats.

The ability to work critically and creatively with a strong team of conservation colleagues within and outside AsRA, manage multiple tasks, and concisely share ideas and questions is essential, as is a sense of humor and a willingness to listen, share, and solve problems with coworkers. Opportunities for professional training and mentoring to advance skills and knowledge will be available.

AsRA's main office is currently closed to the public in response to COVID19 and staff are working from home offices. The main office serves as a meeting and storage point with strict safety guidelines in place.

About the Ausable River Association

Since 1998, AsRA has been working with landowners, local, state, and federal government, NGOs, researchers, and other stakeholders to conserve the freshwater of the Ausable watershed and beyond. AsRA's conservation programs provide transferable solutions to issues that challenge many watersheds. We undertake rigorous monitoring to mitigate the effects of pollutants on aquatic life and drinking water; provide early detection, education, and outreach to reduce invasive species threats; assess the abundance of aquatic native species, such as brook trout, and work to protect their habitat; and we restore the health and balance of our streams, sustaining ecological diversity and providing flood resilience for our communities. See our website: www.ausableriver.org for more details.

How to Apply

Please send a resume, a cover letter describing your interest and addressing the qualifications above, a writing sample, and contact information for three professional references to [hiring@ausableriver.org](mailto: hiring@ausableriver.org). Please type "water quality science" in the subject line. Review of applications begins in late August and will continue until an appropriate candidate is found.