



Job Details

Reference: 10901

Position Title: Senior Hydrologist

Classification: Executive Level 1 (Senior Professional Officer Grade C)

Salary range: \$80,569 - \$87,000 per annum, plus 15.4% superannuation

Location: Perth

Region : Western Australia Regional Office

Branch: Water Analysis and Reporting

Section: Water Resource Assessment

Status: Ongoing

Applicants: Australian citizenship – see [Essential Applicant Information](#)

Applications close: Friday, 14 November 2008

Advertisement

The Water Division is a new division of the Bureau of Meteorology established to fulfil the Bureau's new functions in water information under the Government's long term water plan, *Water for the Future*, and to integrate these with the Bureau's previous hydrological services functions.

This position will lead various teams involved in the preparation of water resources assessments, national water accounts and various hydrologic forecasts. Tasks to be undertaken by teams will include analysis and reporting on various aspects of surface water, groundwater, water quality and water use across Australia, with most tasks involving some degree of hydrologic modelling. Periodic involvement in flood forecasting activities is likely. Due to the Bureau's flood forecasting and warning functions, on occasions, employees may be asked if they would be available to work outside normal working hours.

Duty Statement

Within broad guidelines,

1. Initiate and lead hydrological data analysis and hydrological modelling (including aspects of surface water, groundwater, water quality and water use) studies in support of the compilation of water resources assessments and national water accounts as required under the Water Act 2007.
2. Lead, manage, and provide high level input to the provision of the hydrological and water resources services in the Bureau's Water Division. This may include participation in an operational flood forecasting team during flood events.
3. Lead and manage activities and studies aimed at:
 - (a) analysing water resources data and information (surface water, groundwater, water quality and water use);
 - (b) modelling water resources systems;
 - (c) undertaking water resources assessments;
 - (d) compiling water accounts;
 - (e) calibration of hydrological models and techniques;
 - (f) management of guidance material, manuals and directives; and
 - (g) preparation of reports, data assessments, services and other products for use by the Bureau and external clients.
4. As required, represent the Bureau on committees and groups dealing with water resources data analysis and reporting issues and liaise with both internal and external stakeholders. Work collaboratively with other groups on joint tasks as required.
5. Carry out other duties within the Bureau's Water Division, as required.
6. Ensure that plans, policies and practices in relation to the various elements of the Bureau's Social Justice Strategy are applied in the work area, and that training and development programs are implemented for work area staff.

Duty representing highest function: 1 - 4

Immediate Supervisor: EXECUTIVE LEVEL 2 (SPOA) (NO. 10544)

Job Profile

The Water Division is a new division of the Bureau of Meteorology established to fulfil the Bureau's new functions in water information under the national water plan and to integrate these with the Bureau's existing hydrological services functions.

The Bureau's new roles and responsibilities are provided under the Water Act (2007). The 12-part Water Act includes a Part (7) on water information, setting out a range of new powers for the Director of Meteorology. These powers are broadly modelled on the Census & Statistics powers available to the Commonwealth since Federation. They include the powers with respect to the collection of water information and national standards for water information collection, storage and transmission. The legislation also sets out some obligations for the Bureau, including the requirements to perform periodic water resource assessments, manage a national water account, and to make water information freely available to the public.

The Bureau's expanded water information role entails the development and maintenance of an integrated, national water information system. This includes river flows, groundwater levels, reservoir storage, water quality, water use, water entitlements and water trades. Such data will need to be acquired from over 100 data custodians, with an on-going update schedule put in place to ensure data currency. The data, combined with a range of water-related modelling and forecasting activities will form the basis of the provision of the Water Division's wide range of services. These services will include the production of national annual water resources assessment and an annual national water account.

The Bureau will continue to provide the nation's flood forecasting and warning services, but build and extend these existing systems and services to support a wider range of river forecasting services to meet water management needs. The hydrological data required to support the river forecasting and flood warning services will be sourced through the existing flood warning networks and arrangements, as well as new arrangements to be put in place with the individual data custodians as required.

This position will lead various teams involved in the preparation of water resources assessments, national water accounts and various hydrologic forecasts. Tasks to be undertaken by teams will include analysis and reporting on various aspects of surface water, groundwater, water quality and water use across Australia, with most tasks involving some degree of hydrologic modelling. Periodic involvement in flood forecasting activities is likely. Due to the Bureau's flood forecasting and warning functions, on occasions, employees may be asked if they would be available to work outside normal working hours.

Where required, appointees will be provided with on-the-job training in hydrologic theory and practice and/or short-term placements in partner organizations to gain experience in specialized aspects of water resources management.

This vacancy is located in the Bureau Regional Office in Perth, WA.

Selection Criteria

Applicants must address the selection criteria. To assist you prepare your application, please read the information at [General Information for Applicants](#) and complete the Bureau of Meteorology Application Cover Form.

1. Significant work experience and professional competence in hydrology, hydraulics and/or water engineering (e.g. an Engineering, Natural Resources, or similar degree or equivalent qualifications).
2. Specialised expertise in either water data analysis or hydrological modelling in at least one of the following areas: surface water, groundwater, water quality or water use.
3. Familiarity with Windows, UNIX or Linux computing environments, and significant experience in the use of scientific software including spreadsheets, statistical analysis packages, specialist modelling systems, image analysis techniques or Geographic Information Systems. Studies and/or qualifications in computing would be an advantage.
4. Demonstrated ability to lead a team and experience in managing projects is essential.
5. Suitable personal attributes, including interpersonal skills, strategic thinking, initiative and high level communications skills (clear and concise) both orally and in writing. A commitment to leadership, mentoring and cultivating productive working relationships.
6. Knowledge and understanding of the principles of the Bureau's Social Justice Policies and a commitment to apply them in practice.

Mandatory Qualifications:

A degree or diploma of an Australian educational institution; OR a comparable overseas qualification, which is appropriate to the duties; OR other comparable qualifications, which are appropriate to the duties.

Contact

If you would like to know more about the Water Division within the Bureau of Meteorology visit <http://www.bom.gov.au/water/>

Please read the selection documentation and if you have any queries specific to this position please contact Jim Elliott on **03 9669 4522**.

Applications

All applicants are advised to read the [General Information for Applicants](#) available on this website before submitting their application.

Applications should include a completed Bureau of Meteorology Application Cover Form, Résumé or CV, full details of qualifications and experience, and a Statement addressing the Selection Criteria.

Applications, which will be treated in confidence, should be forwarded, no later than 5pm on Friday 14th November 2008.

Applications can be lodged online at <http://www.bom.gov.au/waterjobs>

By email to: waterjobs@bom.gov.au

All applicants should include a completed Bureau of Meteorology Application Cover Form, Résumé or CV and a Statement addressing the Selection Criteria.

Should you experience any difficulties with accessing the position information or have any questions relating to the application process, please contact the Recruitment Unit, by emailing waterjobs@bom.gov.au or Telephone the Recruitment Unit:

Jessica Boubis on (03) 9669 4583 from 30.10.08 – 03.11.08 or

Linda Heron (03) 9669 4379 from 4.11.08 – 14.11.08.