



Job Details

Reference: 10903

Position Title: Hydrologist

Classification: APS 6 (Professional Officer Class 2)

Salary range: \$64,411 - \$72,196 per annum, plus 15.4% superannuation

Location: Perth

Region: Western Australia Regional Office

Division: Water Division

Branch: Water Data Management

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.

Whilst the primary focus of the position will be data collection, data management and the development of standards, this position will also be involved in the preparation of annual national water resources assessments, national water accounts and various hydrologic forecasts. Tasks will include analysis and reporting on various aspects of surface water, groundwater, water quality and water use across Australia, with opportunities for modelling also arising. 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

_ Under professional supervision,

1. Undertake data management and water information standards development (including aspects of surface water, groundwater, water quality and water use) activities in support of the Bureau's role under the Water Act 2007.
2. Assist in ensuring that ongoing provision of water information from data providers named in the Water Regulations 2008 to the Bureau occurs. Where possible streamline processes to ensure the improved accuracy and timeliness of data receipt. Assist named organisations in resolving any difficulties they may have in effective delivery of data to the Bureau.
3. Lead and/or participate as a team member in 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.
4. Participate in/or lead 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.
5. Represent the Bureau and liaise with both internal and external stakeholders. Work collaboratively with other groups on joint tasks as required.
6. Carry out other duties within the Bureau's Water Division, as required.
7. Be aware of, and apply as necessary, the principles and practices of the various elements of the Bureau's Social Justice Strategy.

Duty representing highest function: 1 - 3

Immediate Supervisor: EXECUTIVE LEVEL 2 (SPOA) (NO. 10524)

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 250 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.

Whilst the primary focus of the position will be data collection, data management and the development of standards, this position will be involved in the preparation of annual national water resources assessments, national water accounts and various hydrologic forecasts. Tasks will include analysis and reporting on various aspects of surface water, groundwater, water quality and water use across Australia, with opportunities for modelling also arising. 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.

On-the-job training will be provided in hydrologic theory and practice and/or short-term placements in partner organizations to gain experience in various facets of water resources management. Appointees will be provided mentorship by senior and supervising hydrologists.

This position will be located at the Bureau's Regional Office in Perth, WA.

Selection Criteria

Selection will be made on the basis of assessment against specified selection criteria. It is in the interests of applicants to note the selection criteria and frame their applications accordingly.

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. Tertiary-level academic qualifications in mathematics, physics, geology, geography, ecology, engineering or hydrology. Training in hydrology or hydraulics would be an advantage.
2. Working experience in data management and reporting, preferably in a water resources, environmental management or engineering context. Experience in standards development and/or hydrologic/hydraulic modelling would be an advantage.
3. Familiarity with Windows, UNIX or Linux computing environments, and 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. Ability to work in or lead a team. An ability to manage projects would be an advantage.
5. Suitable personal attributes, including interpersonal skills, initiative and ability to communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.
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 Bureau of Meteorology visit <http://www.bom.gov.au/>

Please read the selection documentation and if you have any queries specific to this position please contact Jim Elliott **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 (03) 9669 4583 from 30.10.08 – 03.11.08 OR

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

