

Role Description

(Non-Manager)



Our purpose – Helping South Australians Conserve, Sustain and Prosper.

Role Title: Coast and Marine Officer

Division: Biodiversity and Nature Economy

Classification Level: PO2

Branch/Unit: Biodiversity, Science, Coasts and Information / Coasts

CHRIS Position Number: M19834, M19835

Reports to (Title): Team Leader, Coastal Operations & Engineering

About the Agency – [Department for Environment and Water](#)

About the Role

The Coast and Marine Officer develops and implements local coastal protection strategies, programs and projects across the state. The role provides advice and undertakes research and investigations for coastal and marine policies and processes, strategic planning documents, and Development Plans. The Coast and Marine Officer also provides scientific input to the assessment of coastal development applications referred to the Coast Protection Board (CPB) and may be required to administer CPB grants provided to Councils for coastal protection works or studies.

An important part of the role is establishing and maintaining close working relationships with regional coastal stakeholders, including Local Government, Natural Resource Management Boards and community groups, such that the CPB's interests are represented.

This role contributes to the management, rehabilitation and ecological protection of the State's coast.

Key Role Outcomes

- Local coastal protection strategies, programs and projects are supported through the development, implementation, and provision of professional advice to landholders, Local and State government agencies, Regional Boards, and community interest groups.
- Scientific investigations, monitoring and assessment of coastal and marine environments are undertaken, including the collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of physical and biological data to inform evidence-based management decisions and recommendations including policies and processes, strategic planning documents, and Development Plans.
- Project activities are effectively formulated, designed, coordinated, and performed in alignment with policies, standards, budgets and timeframes.
- Strong collaborative partnerships, relationships and networks are established and fostered with key stakeholders (Local Government, Regional Boards, industry, community groups, and the public), and the Branch and Coast Protection Board are professionally represented, to support the effective delivery of project objectives.

Essential Criteria (including qualifications)

- A university degree in engineering, biological, environmental or physical sciences with a coastal processes component is essential.
- Demonstrated fundamental understanding of the physical and biological processes operating in coastal and nearshore marine environments, with the ability to apply this knowledge to achieve positive environmental outcomes.

- Demonstrated fundamental understanding of the principles for assessing and recommending coastal protection strategies and providing advice on coastal development in relation to coastal erosion, flooding, sand drift and coastal acid sulphate soils.
- Demonstrated skills and experience in identifying and collating environmental data from a wide range of formal and informal sources, analysing data, and synthesising results to report on environmental conditions.
- Demonstrated ability to maintain, document, and manage datasets to ensure quality, accuracy, and accessibility.
- Demonstrated ability to provide professional advice and communicate technical/scientific information effectively to a diverse range of stakeholders.

Desirable Criteria

- An appropriate post graduate qualification related to coastal or environmental science is desirable.
- Experience in project management, contract management, and oversight of on-ground contractors.
- Presenting scientific results in a variety of formats (reports, visualisations, scientific literature, oral presentations) to share information and to inform coastal management decisions and policies.
- Using GIS software, code (e.g., Python), and/or hydrodynamic and engineering models to create and analyse environmental data.
- Ability to perform field work in coastal and nearshore marine environments.
- A current Class C driver's licence, and willingness and ability to safely operate a 4WD.

Key Relationships/Interactions

- Works collaboratively with members of the Coasts team.
- Liaises with a variety of external organisations, including local government, the CPB, Natural Resource Management Boards, Regional Coasts Officers, industry stakeholders and members of the general public.
- May direct contractors in field operations.

Special Conditions

- May be required to participate in emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities required by government agencies.
- You must be an Australian citizen, permanent resident, or provide evidence that you hold a valid working visa that allows you to work in Australia.
- This role has been identified as a:
 Position of trust ☐ Prescribed position ☐ Not applicable ☒
- May be required to undertake intra or interstate travel, occasional overnight absences, and work outside of the normal hours of work.

Core Competencies	Elements	Behavioural Indicator
Shapes Strategic Thinking and changes	• Thinking and acting strategically	• Raises potential options for consideration arising from research analysis.

Achieves Results	• Delivering effective outcomes	• Develops and communicates clear and realistic goals / expected outcomes for projects and tasks. • Works with key stakeholders to problem solve over coming challenges and facilitate the achievement of outcomes.
Drives Business Excellence	• Promoting customer service	• Acknowledges and responds positively to constructive feedback gained from customers. • Takes considerable effort to understand and respond to the requirements of diverse customers.
Forges Relationships and Engages Others	• Influencing and negotiating • Establishing and maintaining networks	• Effectively gains buy-in across a range of levels internally – upwards, sideways and downwards – and achieve positive outcomes. • Shows tolerance and consideration for others by accepting diverse opinions and approaches nonjudgmentally.
Exemplifies Personal Drive and Professionalism	• Displaying flexibility and resilience	• Is flexible and responsive to the diverse perspectives in a group or of an individual. • Seeks to understand the impact of culture on interactions with others and in business transactions and communication.

Work Health and Safety

Contribute to workplace safety

- Accepts responsibility for own and others safety.
- Actively participates in consultation about work, health and safety issues.
- Identifies and reports hazards and identifies risk controls where appropriate.

Corporate Responsibilities

- Demonstrate appropriate and professional workplace behaviours that are in line with the [Code of Ethics](#) and the [South Australian Public Sector Values](#).
- Maintain a commitment to Equal Employment Opportunity, Diversity, Ethical Conduct, and record keeping within legislative requirements, according to the principles of the *Public Sector Act 2009*.
- Exhibit and promote the behaviours in line with *The way we work* outlined in the [DEW Corporate Plan](#).
- Actively participate in the Department's Performance Review and Development Program.
- Demonstrate appropriate and professional workplace behaviours that align closely with the White Ribbon message.
- Champion positive behaviours and conduct during all interactions with children and young people and act in accordance with the Child Safe Environment Policy and Procedure at all times.

Date Delegate approved original classification:	07/09/2026	Original Class method:	Comparison
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