

AGRICULTURE WATER QUALITY COORDINATOR
POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

MONTEREY BAY SANCTUARY FOUNDATION
Closing date: SEPTEMBER 3, 2004

POSITION: The Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation (MBSF) requires services for ongoing project development and coordination with agencies and the agricultural community to carry out a completed plan to reduce polluted runoff in the watersheds draining to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS).

BACKGROUND: The MBNMS provides resource protection through management, research, and education programs that foster stewardship of this nationally significant marine ecosystem which stretches nearly 280 miles along California's Central Coast. The MBNMS' Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) is a collaborative effort among 25 federal, state, and local agencies, public and private groups to enhance and protect water quality in the Sanctuary and its eleven watershed areas. The WQPP has completed a comprehensive Agricultural and Rural Lands Plan in collaboration with the region's six county Farm Bureaus. The plan addresses polluted runoff in the form of sediments, nutrients and pesticides from agricultural lands and other rural sources, while sustaining the economic viability of the region's agricultural industry. The plan can be viewed at: http://montereybay.nos.noaa.gov/resourcepro/reports/AgactionIV_99/welcome.html

SUMMARY OF DUTIES: The position will work closely with the WQPP Director, the Sanctuary's Resource Protection Coordinator, MBSF Director, interagency committees, technical assistance organizations and agricultural groups to pursue methods, resources and partnerships for implementation of the Agriculture and Rural Lands Plan. Much of the work will be conducted in collaboration with the Sanctuary's key partners in carrying out the plan, including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Coalition of Central Coast County Farm Bureaus, local Resource Conservation Districts, Regional Water Quality Control Boards, U.C. Cooperative Extension, counties, and others.

Facilitate, integrate and assist with partner's efforts on all sections of the agricultural plan, including agricultural industry pilot projects, technical information and outreach, education and public relations, regulatory coordination and streamlining, funding mechanisms and incentives, public lands and rural roads.

Coordinate with partners to organize cross-trainings on agricultural water quality issues for multiple agencies and an interagency network of shared technical assistance for farmers and ranchers.

Work with partners to develop and distribute a regional compilation of conservation fact sheets, guidebooks and other existing materials.

Assist in linking the agricultural water quality monitoring programs to be implemented under the plan with data from existing citizen and government monitoring efforts.

Establish and coordinate a framework to track and document overall plan implementation with the various partners to measure success over time.

Work with partners to investigate and pursue additional resources needed for implementation, including collaborative grant proposals, public-private partnerships, volunteers, etc. and assist MBSF in overseeing grant management.

Conduct outreach on the plan and its implementation to government agencies, agricultural groups and nonprofit organizations to link to their ongoing goals, jointly pursue implementation and to provide comments on their related water quality efforts.

Develop articles for regional newsletters and media stories on the plan and work with partners to provide updates on implementation. Respond to information requests about agricultural water quality issues and the plan. Represent the Sanctuary in various projects and meetings to further the plan's goals.

POSITION INFORMATION AND APPLICATION:

The position is expected to approximate full-time work Monday through Friday for two years, with possibility of renewal should additional funds become available. Requires Bachelor's degree or higher, knowledge and experience with coordinating implementation of watershed, water quality or agricultural conservation plans involving multiple partners. Please send resume, cover letter and names and phone numbers of 3 references by September 3, 2004 to Chris Coburn, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 299 Foam St., Monterey, CA 93940 or fax to (831) 647-4244.