Position Announcement: Director of Science and Certification

The Forest Stewardship Council US National Office (FSC US) seeks a Director of Science and Certification to lead and oversee FSC’s normative framework and application in the United States, and as its senior conservation scientist, represent FSC with third-party sustainability initiatives. This is a full-time position, ideally based at our Minneapolis headquarters.

ORGANIZATION SUMMARY

FSC US is the independent national office of Forest Stewardship Council, the world’s most respected forest certification system and one of the leading drivers of forest conservation today.

FSC promotes forest stewardship by harnessing the power of the marketplace. We set standards for responsible forest management, ensure credible tracking of responsibly sourced wood and fiber through the supply chain, and promote the value of responsible forest products with consumers. We do all of this in concert with our members representing the world’s leading environmental and social justice organizations as well as thousands of companies and government agencies worldwide.

FSC is experiencing extraordinary growth in demand, and now represents almost 10% of the forest products market. FSC-certified products, such as building materials, paper, tissue, and furniture can be purchased at a full range of major national retailers. Currently 160 million acres of North American forestland is FSC-certified (450 million acres globally). More than 5,000 North American companies are certified under FSC’s chain-of-custody standards (over 30,000 globally). See www.fsc.org for more information.

POSITION & RESPONSIBILITIES

The FSC US Director of Science and Certification will supervise a team of 2-3 staff dedicated to development and application of FSC policies and standards in the United States. This position will be responsible for the following activities:

- The management of the FSC US Forest Management Standard including its every five-year review and revision
- The management of the FSC Controlled Wood US National Risk Assessment including its regular review and revision
- Working with and assisting FSC International on development, maintenance, and revision of FSC global standards and policies including Forest Management, Controlled Wood, Chain of Custody, accreditation, and other standards.
- Collaborate regularly with and provide support to our sister office in Canada
- Representing FSC and FSC US at national and international meetings
- Working with Certification Bodies to facilitate consistent application of FSC standards.
- Working with leading third-party sustainability initiatives to ensure that key forest conservation values are recognized and supported.
• Working directly with FSC Forest Management and Chain of Custody certificate holders including State Agencies, TIMOs, REITs, other large landowners, and forest product manufacturers including large paper, tissue and solid wood manufacturers.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

The ideal candidate will have a strong background in forestry, ecology, or other natural resource field, and will have demonstrated experience in the field of forest certification.

Required qualifications:
• Advanced degree in forestry, natural resources, conservation biology, ecology, or similar science field
• Broad knowledge of forestry, forest management, forest ecology, and wildlife biology
• Knowledge of FSC and other certification programs and standards, particularly as they relate to development processes and application
• Have at least five years of project management and leadership experience
• Experience organizing and facilitating meetings between diverse stakeholder perspectives

Preferred skills:
• Analytical proficiency including application of environmental and social science in policy development
• Ability to relate to and collaborate with a diversity of stakeholders, manage conflict and achieve consensus
• Comfort working with international stakeholders and cross-culturally to achieve results
• Ability to lead, manage and continue to develop a team of 2-3 staff dedicated to policy and standards
• Ability to confidently and positively represent FSC values in public including in challenging situations
• Capacity for organizing and multi-tasking including ability to manage long-term projects while also addressing immediate situations faced by stakeholders
• Experience developing national and international-level policies and standards, preferably forest certification standards

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Compensation for this position is commensurate with experience. FSC US maintains a highly competitive benefits package including health and dental insurance, paid leave, retirement savings plan with matching contributions, and a flexible working schedule.

To apply, please email your CV and a cover letter to FSC US at info@us.fsc.org. Please reference “Director of Science and Certification” in the subject line. Applications are accepted until position has been filled.