

POSITION DESCRIPTION
Ocean Resource Management Plan Coordinator
(April 2010)

The American Samoa Government, Department of Commerce, is looking for an Ocean Resource Management Plan Coordinator who will be responsible for the integration of existing resource management efforts under a five-year Ocean Resource Management Plan for American Samoa. The Coordinator will report directly to the Manager of the American Samoa Coastal Management Program (ASCMP) and will work to facilitate and implement the Ocean Resource Management Plan, as well as to work closely with other local, regional, and federal partners in assuring that current and future ocean resource planning efforts in American Samoa are coordinated and utilize best management practices.

The American Samoa Coastal Management Program (ASCMP) oversees a number of planning efforts that provide elements of an integrated ocean resource management plan. The Coordinator will be responsible for the implementation and updating of the Territory's Ocean Resource Management Plan (ORMP). The Ocean Resource Management Plan addresses the following ocean resource concerns; over-fishing, coastal water quality, ocean aquaculture development, coral reef ecosystem degradation and mangrove habitat loss. This position will involve coordinating and organizing four advisory work groups, each dealing with a specific portion of the plan. The Coordinator will also design the implementation of public awareness activities at the village level, while gathering input and providing community liaison for the development and implementation of the management plan. The Coordinator will work closely with the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Department of Port Administration, Department of Public Health, American Samoa Community College Land Grant, the National Park Service of American Samoa and other relevant agencies.

The Coordinator will advise the ASCMP Manager in the overall administration of the Coastal Management Program, including assistance with the preparation of grant applications, compiling quarterly and annual performance reports, designing, implementing, and monitoring work plans to NOAA/OCRM and to other funding sources. The Coordinator reviews current territorial legislation and administrative regulations to determine overlapping authorities and/or shortcomings that hinder successful resource management. The Coordinator is responsible for the design and implementation of interagency training and discussions to resolve legal and administrative deficiencies. The Coordinator also serves as technical advisor on ocean issues to the ASCMP Manager, the Project Notification System and Review Board for their land use permitting, and the Planning Section of DOC by providing technical input on the effects to ocean resources and ocean planning matters in American Samoa.

The Ocean Resource Management Plan Coordinator must be able to:

1. Develop a structure for coordinating and integrating the existing resource management plans;
2. Design a five-year Implementation Plan for the ORMP for American Samoa based on advisory group input and workshops;
3. Act as the point of contact to respond to requests for information on American Samoa with regards to the ORMP;
4. Work closely with other agencies' personnel involved with the ORMP development, implementation, and evaluation;
5. Establish the framework for a public participation process that will engage the traditional and transitioning coastal villages in the management of American Samoa's ocean-related resources;
6. Produce biannual status reports describing the progress of the ORMP implementation process as well as findings regarding overall ocean resources;
7. Schedule, organize and attend ORMP advisory group and Council meetings;
8. Assist with the implementation of Coastal Management Program policies and work plans with limited supervision;
9. Design and implement long-range program plans in support of ASCMP; and

10. Respond to other relevant tasks and needs as they arise in the future.

QUALIFICATIONS

The ORMP Coordinator must be knowledgeable in such disciplines as coastal resource management, land use planning and policy, marine affairs, or public administration. The position requires an individual with a minimum of a Master's Degree in biological science, natural resource management or environmental planning with an emphasis on coastal/marine management. Overseas experience is very desirable. The Coordinator's role includes both science and management duties. Candidates must be organized, computer literate, and have exceptional communication, writing and interpersonal skills. This is a two-year contract position with a salary range of \$32,000-\$35,000. Transportation, relocation expenses, housing, and medical expenses included.

APPLICATIONS

Interested applicants should mail, fax or e-mail a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to Mrs. Reinette V. Thompson-Niko at the following address:

Reinette V. Thompson-Niko
American Samoa Coastal Management Program (ASCMP)
Department of Commerce
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Pago Pago, AS 96799
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Phone 1- 684-633-5155
Fax 1-684-633-4195

Please Copy Sean Morrison and Christin T. Reynolds at the same address and following emails:
sean.morrison@doc.as and christin.reynolds@doc.as.