

Open Position: Project Scientist, Watershed Report Card

Title: Watershed Report Card Project Scientist

Reports to: Program Director

Status: Exempt; Part-Time Regular

Organization:

Friends of the Verde River is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works collaboratively for a healthy, flowing Verde River system. Friends envision a healthy, flowing Verde River and tributaries that support our unique environment, vibrant economy, and quality of life for future generations. Friends of the Verde River is a hybrid work organization.

In 2020, Friends of the Verde River, in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, produced the first report card of the Verde River Watershed in Arizona. This report card was designed to communicate science-based information to the public in the areas of water, habitat, and community. The report card also suggested a set of solutions for improving conditions in the watershed. The report card is due to be updated and released in 2025.

Position Summary:

Friends of the Verde River is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill a hybrid position in our Cottonwood, AZ, office. This half-time position will be responsible for producing the 2025 Verde Watershed Report Card in collaboration with our partners. This individual will have strong analytical and relationship-building skills and will be responsible for working with a diverse group of stakeholders.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Communicate with scientists, public officials, and others to review and revise the metrics used in the 2020 report card
- Collect, analyze, and synthesize a broad range of data to produce new scores
- Generate spatial representations of data
- Work with consultants, if necessary, to generate credible and accurate results
- Manage the development and distribution of communications materials for different audiences

Minimum Qualifications:

- Undergraduate degree in related field; master's degree is preferred
- Demonstrated experience in data collection and analysis
- Experience with Esri ArcGIS software, including proficiency in creating informative maps and spatial analysis
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills (both verbal and written)
- Ability to work independently and communicate effectively in a remote/hybrid work environment
- Skilled with Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and Google Workspace

- Local and regional travel is required; reliable transportation, valid driver's license, and auto insurance required
- Ability to demonstrate the right to work in the U.S., subject to E-Verify Employment Verification

Preferred Qualifications:

- Knowledge of the Verde River and the surrounding communities
- Experience in the development of indicators and metrics to evaluate the status and trends in ecosystems/watersheds

Physical Requirements:

- To successfully perform essential functions, the individual is required to sit, stand, walk, speak, hear, etc.
- Must be able to operate office equipment, telephone, computer
- Reasonable accommodation may be made for qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions

Desired Characteristics:

- Commitment to Friends' mission and vision
- Motivated and driven to success
- Analytical
- Demonstrated ability to build positive working relationships with team members and diverse constituents
- Demonstrated ability to maintain calm in a fast-paced, team environment
- Ability to stay on task and meet deadlines and goals for multiple activities
- Strong attention to detail

This office is located at 115 S. Main Street, Suite B, Cottonwood, Arizona. Friends is operating as a hybrid workplace, with most office-type work being conducted remotely. This is not, however, a remote work position. Compensation includes a competitive salary commensurate with experience, in the range of \$21-23 per hour, plus an excellent package of benefits.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. We will begin reviewing applications after December 11, 2023.

Please send application materials in one pdf file (cover letter, *resume*, **and a minimum of two professional references**) to jobs@verderiver.org.