



Marine Program Director

Santa Barbara, CA

www.EnvironmentalDefenseCenter.org

The Environmental Defense Center (EDC) is seeking applicants to fill a full-time, mid-to-senior level **Marine Program Director** position in our Santa Barbara office. The position is available April 1, 2023.

About EDC

EDC is a non-profit, public interest law firm that has worked to protect and restore California's environment and natural resources for more than 45 years. EDC is headquartered in Santa Barbara, California, and our work focuses primarily within San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties, including the northern Channel Islands and the ocean waters seaward of this region's shores.

EDC protects and enhances the local environment through education, advocacy, and legal action. EDC maintains a fast-paced practice in the field of environmental, natural resources, and land use law, as well as marine conservation, and is a hub for effective collaboration and coalition-building. Our program areas include climate and energy, protecting open space and wildlife, clean water, and the Santa Barbara Channel. EDC's Marine Program strives to use innovative approaches to resource management and build strategic partnerships with a variety of community-based groups, agencies, and stakeholders. Current and potential projects include:

- Offshore wind: Support the transition away from fossil fuels while ensuring projects are responsibly developed.
- Offshore oil and gas: Ensure oil and gas platform decommissioning decisions are science-based, and advocate for the end of offshore oil and gas development.
- Marine protected areas (MPAs): Advocate for our thriving network of MPAs as an important ocean conservation tool.
- National marine sanctuaries: Support management of Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and the designation of Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary.
- Whale conservation: Advocate for innovative solutions to protect whales from industrial development.
- Commercial and industrial development: monitor and respond to proposals for development in marine waters, including, e.g., open ocean aquaculture.

Position Summary

The Marine Program Director is individually responsible for managing the strategic direction for all aspects of the Marine Program, project planning and management, and provides support for the legal team. The Marine Program Director works under the supervision of the Chief Counsel, in collaboration

with the Executive Director on funding and other administrative priorities, and in close partnership with other EDC staff. Key responsibilities include:

- Lead innovative strategic program planning.
- Execute strategies and achieve outcomes that progress the goals for each of the projects within the Marine Program.
- Develop and execute new projects.
- Conduct research regarding pending and emerging ocean issues.
- Develop recommendations and management strategies.
- Supervise EDC's Marine Analyst, interns, and volunteers.
- Assist lawyers in reviewing environmental, scientific, and technical documents.
- Prepare comment letters and testify at public hearings; work with experts to develop scientifically based analysis of issues.
- Maintain strong relationships with donors and funders.
- Support grant acquisition and reporting, as well as fundraising events and activities.
- Provide program updates to EDC's Board of Directors.
- Participate in events, forums, and tabling activities.
- Other duties may include serving on councils, convening working groups, and chairing or co-chairing other collaborative and stakeholder processes.

Minimum Qualifications

- Undergraduate degree with a focus in environmental/marine science, environmental policy, planning, or related field preferred.
- A minimum of two (2) years of effective program and or policy development in the environmental field.
- Proven ability to manage projects.
- Track record of building and maintaining positive working relationships with diverse stakeholders to achieve strategic goals.
- Well-developed understanding of ocean issues, climate change and impacts to wildlife and/or human communities.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including demonstrated success in clearly and concisely translating science to diverse audiences via public speaking and written materials.
- Experience in successful grant writing and/or other fundraising.
- Willingness to work occasional evenings and weekends.
- Self-directed and highly motivated team player.
- Demonstrated commitment to excellence and integrity in all aspects of work.

Preferred Qualifications

- Graduate degree in environmental/marine science, policy, and/or management.
- Five (5) years of effective leadership in program and or policy development.
- Supervisory experience

Commitment to environmental justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion

EDC is proud to be an equal opportunity employer and is committed to cultivating a diverse and inclusive work culture. We believe that a diverse workforce that includes historically marginalized and excluded groups of people improves our ability to assist our clients; enhances intellectual engagement; inspires innovation and creativity; and promotes critical thinking and solution-finding. EDC is devoted to hiring a diverse team of qualified people with respect to gender identity (including gender expression), race,

sexual orientation, family status, religion, ethnicity, age, physical abilities, and other factors. EDC will also make reasonable accommodations for qualified people with disabilities.

Benefits & Compensation

EDC offers a generous benefit package including health, dental, vision, long-term disability, life insurance, and retirement matching contribution for employees, plus contributions toward health insurance coverage for dependents and spouses. Paid vacation and sick leave are provided, plus the following ten (10) holiday days: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Cesar Chavez Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and the day after Thanksgiving. In addition, employees are paid during EDC's Winter Break, from December 24 through December 31, when our office is closed. This is a full-time position located in Santa Barbara with the opportunity to work a hybrid schedule. The compensation range is \$80-90,000.

Apply

Please send a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and professional references to Linda Krop at LKrop@EnvironmentalDefenseCenter.org. Please indicate "Marine Program Director application" in the subject line. Only complete applications that follow all instructions will be reviewed. We kindly request no telephone inquiries regarding this position.

Posting date 03/14/2023.