

Job Announcement

Posted: June 10, 2021

Washington Maritime Blue Quiet Sound Program Director

Closing Date: Priority Applications Due June 25, 2021 - Open until filled
Salary Range - \$90,000 - \$135,000 Based upon Experience + Comprehensive Benefits
Reports to: President/CEO & Quiet Sound Advisory Board
Location: Negotiable – Seattle, WA preferred
Direct Applicants Only – No Third-Party Agencies
See below under Additional Information for directions on how to apply

Washington Maritime Blue

Washington Maritime Blue is a non-profit, strategic alliance formed to accelerate innovation and sustainability in support of an inclusive blue economy. With a mission to implement [Washington State's Strategy for the Blue Economy](#) delivered by Governor Jay Inslee's Maritime Innovation Advisory Council, we are a partnership between industry, public sector, research & training institutions, and community organizations. Maritime Blue works to create a world-class, thriving, equitable, and sustainable maritime and ocean industry through knowledge sharing, joint innovation, entrepreneurship, commercialization, business, and workforce development.

Quiet Sound

The [Quiet Sound program](#) has been developed over the past twenty-four months in response to Recommendation 22 from Washington State's Governor Inslee's Southern Resident Orca Task Force. The [Task Force](#) recommended the implementation of transboundary shipping noise-reduction initiatives to reduce underwater noise in the vicinity of the Southern Resident orca population. The goal of the program is to better understand and reduce the cumulative effects of acoustic and physical disturbance from large commercial vessels on Southern Resident orcas throughout their range in Washington State.

The program will:

- Promote data-driven, targeted, and results-oriented projects that lead to reduction in acoustic and physical threats to Southern Resident orcas
- Engender the highest level of respect for treaty rights and coordinate actions with Washington State tribes;

- Promote voluntary compliance;
- Leverage relationships with public, private, and non-profit sector partners to ensure cost-effective and coordinated utilization of resources;
- Employ “best available science” in decision-making and support data collection to fill gaps as necessary;
- Be transparent and well-documented;
- Reflect equity, diversity, and inclusion in hiring, contracting, and participation.

Quiet Sound is overseen by an Advisory Board with effective chairpersons, representative of key member entities from the Work Groups, including tribes, federal agencies, state agencies, industry, ports, and nonprofits. While Maritime Blue is the administrative support structure for the program, the Quiet Sound Advisory Board makes the key operational and policy decisions for the program.

The work performed by the program will be implemented by five individual Work Groups, each with an annual work plan and budget. The Work Groups will be made up of staff assigned and resourced in-kind from multiple member entities—industry, ports, tribes, agencies, and nonprofits—to perform the necessary work, with contractor assistance as needed. They include:

- [Vessel Operations & Incentives Work Group](#) Voluntary adjustments to vessel operations to reduce underwater noise impacts to Orca, and related incentives
- [Evaluation & Adaptive Management Work Group](#) Evaluation of program effectiveness and recommendations for continual improvement
- [Innovation & Vessel Quieting Work Group](#) Research, development, and implementation of vessel quieting technologies
- [Monitoring Whales & Vessel Noise Work Group](#) Visual and acoustic monitoring of Orca presence and underwater noise.
- [Whale Notification System to Vessels Work Group](#) Notification of Orca presence to vessel operators, including Whale Report Alert System usage.

Position Description

The Quiet Sound Program Director is responsible for leading the management of the program and acts as the primary face of the Program to stakeholders and the public. The Program Director is responsible for long-term strategic planning for the program, stakeholder engagement and relationship building, development and tracking of the annual program budget and work plan, general oversight of the Program Working Groups, providing senior review of program communications materials, reporting to Quiet Sound Advisory Board, pursuing and securing funding multiple sources, and the development of a long-term program funding model, among other responsibilities that may evolve over time.

Essential Functions

The scope of work for the ongoing management of the Quiet Sound Program includes the following key tasks:

- Strategic planning, including administrative responsibilities, for the future development of the Quiet Sound Program to meet the Program objectives, including project tracking,

cost allocation, and development of overall program budget.

- Managing relationships with a broad range of regional, national and international stakeholders, including but not limited to: the Advisory Board, Working Groups, and other relevant interests including but not limited to: environmental non-government organizations, tribal governments, ports and maritime industry representatives, academics, researchers, and external contractors.
- Planning and execution of key stakeholder meetings and workshops, including recording and distributing of meeting minutes, and follow-up of action items.
- Determining program resource requirements, including internal staff and external consultants and contractors and managing the deliverables, schedules and budget of such resources.
- Interpreting scientific research findings, technical information, policies, laws, and guidelines related to the goals of the program and/or work groups. Research issues of concern and provides advance information to relevant Quiet Sound members, as appropriate.
- Engaging key stakeholders and government for the provision of both short-term financial support for the Quiet Sound Program, and development of a long-term program funding model, as appropriate.
- Coordinates and facilitates resolution of project development issues. This may include reviewing and evaluating findings, conclusions and recommendations of individual projects/research completed in support of the Quiet Sound Program and using these findings to inform the development of threat reduction measures within the scope of the program. Provides regular updates to leadership and staff.
- Developing content for general internal and external communications material such as program web site, press releases, stakeholder updates and technical reports.
- Promoting and representing the Quiet Sound Program nationally and internationally through transboundary stakeholder engagement, presentation at technical conferences and webinars, participation in advisory committees, etc.

Qualifications

This is an extraordinary opportunity for a seasoned program manager with an interest in working across diverse groups in the marine conservation/environmental field and further develop a newly established program. The successful candidate will develop and lead programs, work collaboratively with a large and diverse group of members, partners and stakeholders, help develop organizational priorities, and partner with the President/CEO on strategic priorities.

Desired qualifications include:

- 7-10 years of experience in project management and leadership preferably in the marine conservation, ocean, and/or blue economy sectors.
- Highly organized, effective communicator, and ability to perform across diverse sectors in an ambiguous, fast-moving environment; a driving force who manages toward clarity and solutions
- A successful track record in setting priorities, shaping processes, guiding investment in people and systems, and developing an infrastructure that creates a stronger and more efficient organization

- Strong program management skills managing complex, multifaceted projects resulting in measurable successes and program growth, including experience in overseeing consultants and developing scopes of work
- A consummate team player with a flexible and creative approach
- Excellent communication and coalition building skills with an ability to balance, negotiate, and work with a variety of internal and external stakeholders; high level of knowledge and understanding, especially as it relates to program replication, connecting programs to funding, creatively generating other resources, and building strategic partnerships
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and a commitment to Quiet Sound and the Washington Maritime Blue's mission

You will feel prepared to take on this role if you have experience in:

- Working independently while maintaining effective working relationships with co-workers, supervisors, customers, and the general public.
- Engaging multi-stakeholder/partner groups that are mission driven in order to successfully create and implement strategic and operational plans, develop solutions, and deliver excellence in project development and planning.
- Working effectively with colleagues and partners from the full range of differences reflected in our community, including but not limited to ableness/disability, age, economic/social class, English proficiency, race /ethnicity, family status, gender identity and expression, national origin/citizenship status, religion/spiritual expression, and sexual orientation.

You will be successful if you feel passionate about:

- Working on marine mammal conservation, addressing climate action / ecological health, and equitable community development in the maritime and ocean sectors – the Blue Economy.
- Working on innovative solutions to conservation challenges.
- Working with multiple stakeholders, including industry, government, research, non-profit and community leaders; labor organizations, tribes, elected officials, investors, researchers, educators, youth and co-workers.

Your effectiveness in this role will depend on your ability to:

- Work across groups and entities with diverse interests to advance shared goals
- Communicate effectively, orally and in writing, while working in a fast-paced environment on a cross-functional team.
- Use creative problem-solving and demonstrate exceptional results with limited resources
- Maintain strong, productive and professional working relationships across entities
- Take a consultative and customer service-oriented approach to problem-solving.
- Successfully manage competing priorities.
- Work in an environment that is welcoming, open, transparent, curious, collaborative, challenging, results-driven, and fun!
- Create, nurture, and leverage deep relationships throughout the region's maritime, ocean, technology, conservation, research, and manufacturing sectors along with a diversity of community and youth leaders.

Work Environment

Washington Maritime Blue is headquartered in Seattle, WA with partners, stakeholders, projects, and sites across the state of Washington. Remote work is supported with the expectation that staff can meet regularly in person as health and safety dictate.

- Office Environment with occasional project site visits (exposure to computer screens)
- Must be able to travel domestically and internationally (when safe and appropriate)
- Noise level is usually moderate

Demonstration of Commitment to Equity and Social Justice

Washington Maritime Blue has a committed goal to demonstrate an equity mindset. We are seeking individuals who can demonstrate both awareness of equity and social justice issues as well as actively combat inequalities.

Additional Information

To be considered for this position, **please submit a single pdf with a cover letter and resume to info@maritimeblue.org. Please use the subject line and name the file using "Your Name_ Quiet Sound Program Director Position".** Priority Applications are **due June 25, 2021** and will then be read on a first-come-first-served basis. The position will remain open until filled. In your cover letter, please describe how your knowledge, skills, and abilities prepare you for the job responsibilities and qualifications outlined in this job announcement.

Who May Apply

Washington Maritime Blue encourages people of all backgrounds to apply, including people of color, immigrants, refugees, women, LGBTQAI+, people with disabilities, veterans, and those with diverse life experience. This position is open to all qualified candidates that meet the minimum qualifications. Washington Maritime Blue values diverse perspectives and life experiences. Applicants will be considered regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, disability, religious or political affiliation, ages, sexual orientation, or gender identity. **Direct applicants only, please no third-party applications.**

Questions

Please Contact: info@maritimeblue.org