



## DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

**Community Engagement Specialist  
Southern Sea Otter Reintroduction Planning Project  
May 1, 2024**

Defenders of Wildlife (Defenders) has secured grant funding to hire a contractor to engage coastal communities in Northern California about a potential southern sea otter reintroduction.

The Community Engagement Specialist will help develop and implement strategic engagement initiatives and build upon and maintain relationships with coastal stakeholders, including public and private organizations, tribes, non-profits, governmental agencies, elected leaders and local communities. The incumbent will collaborate with numerous project partners to create and implement tasks that support the project's objectives.

Term: May 2024 to March 2025 (open until filled)  
Compensation: Up to \$30,000

The incumbent must have access to a vehicle for traveling to meetings along the Northern California coast.

To apply, please contact Andy Johnson at [ajohnson@defenders.org](mailto:ajohnson@defenders.org).

### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

- Travel to coastal communities near potential sea otter reintroduction sites to establish ties with and gather information from project stakeholders and community residents
- Establish and maintain relationships with public and private organizations, non-profits, local communities and elected officials
- Review the community engagement literature and refine engagement models and strategies
- Develop and implement strategies to engage stakeholders about the sea otter reintroduction planning project
- Design, plan and coordinate events to promote the project's messages in coastal communities
- Create and manage strategies to increase public awareness about the benefits of sea otter reintroduction
- Monitor progress and report findings to project supervisors
- Expand the project's outreach and communications capacity
- Concentrate on reaching diverse communities, advancing rewilding discussions and engaging tribes)
- Expand Defenders' engagement and reach within coastal communities
- Prepare an inventory of targeted communities (i.e., potential sea otter release sites) and establish metrics/analytics from engagement strategies (e.g., survey data and analyses, social media impressions, numbers of people reached) to chart measures of success

- Create a final report on the implementation and success of engagement strategies with coastal Tribes, fishery groups, residents and visitors
- Collaborate with project Work Groups and task teams to represent and communicate about the project across all channels
- Produce and assist with project-related communications: publications and reports, press materials, social media, website content and other materials

## Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in a related field
- Minimum two years of experience in community engagement or a related field
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Friendly, outgoing personality
- Proven ability to prioritize work tasks and multitask efficiently
- Knowledge of community engagement tools and techniques
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office
- Ability to think creatively and develop innovative solutions
- Strong organizational skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Commitment to cultural sensitivity and diversity in the workplace

## Physical Activities, Environmental Conditions, Physical Demands

- Driving to meetings
- Computer work (e.g., document preparation, Zoom calls)
- Light lifting
- Walking
- Sitting for extended periods

For more information or to apply, please contact Andy Johnson at [ajohnson@defenders.org](mailto:ajohnson@defenders.org). This position will remain open until filled.