



**Position:** Water Quality Advocate

Full-Time Exempt with benefits  
Reports to Executive Director

**Overview of Protect Our Water Jackson Hole**

Protect Our Water Jackson Hole (POWJH) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the surface and groundwater in Teton County, Wyoming. POWJH was initially formed as Friends of Fish Creek (FOFC) in 2014. The work we did as FOFC revealed that the effects of nutrient pollution evident in Fish Creek extend far beyond the Westbank of the Snake River, seriously threatening water quality throughout Jackson Hole. Water pollution in our seemingly pristine valley comes from multiple sources that threaten serious damage to the environment, human health, and economy across Teton County, Wyoming. The work of POWJH is multi-dimensional. Our work includes:

- Working with community partners to fund, develop, and implement a comprehensive clean water plan;
- Engaging local government and advocating for improved septic system regulations, public water system protections, and land development regulations that protect surface and groundwater quality;
- Developing and funding programs to assist property owners with drinking water testing, septic system monitoring, and sewer system hookups;
- Collaborating with local partners to educate the community on water quality related issues and solutions for protecting and restoring our water resources.

**Job Description:**

Protect Our Water Jackson Hole's (POWJH) Water Quality Advocate will use science to advocate for protecting and restoring water quality in Teton County, Wyoming. This position will invite and value community and collaborative partners' input to ensure broad stakeholder involvement and inclusivity in solving water quality problems. This position will monitor water quality reports, proposed changes in land use, wastewater, or water supply activities that may impact water quality, and firmly advocate with the appropriate agencies for protective interventions. The focus of this position will be on advocacy, engagement, and partnerships at the local, state, regional, and national levels.

**Major Responsibilities**

**Science**

- Create, implement and coordinate work plans and strategies to restore and protect the quality of groundwater and surface water resources
- Visit areas affected by water management or quality problems to identify causes and determine solutions
- Gather information from geographic information systems (GIS) databases or applications to formulate water conservation recommendations
- Understand water quantity and quality models, including allocation of pollution loads, in watershed planning
- Provide technical review of planning documents and staff reports on water quality topics
- Attend and report on pertinent water quality meetings

## Advocacy

- Collaborate with public and private natural resource organizations, non-profit organizations, and agencies to effectively advocate for clean water
- Develop knowledge of federal, state, and local governments and their roles and responsibilities in watershed restoration and protection, local water planning, and land use management
- Participate in developing clean water policies, programs, and projects
- Engage in grassroots outreach and organizing around county policy and funding issues
- Help educate elected officials and their staff on water quality priorities
- Develop an understanding of relevant state and related advocacy initiatives and identify new policy opportunities for member engagement
- Advocate for, and monitor, at the Local, State or Federal Level
  - Zoning/rezoning proposals impacting septic, sewerage connections, etc.
  - Permit Applications, Regulations, non-compliance, and enforcement
  - Facilities operation, upgrades, expansion, etc.
  - Wastewater Issues in Grand Teton National Park
  - Clean water supply issues/proposals e.g. the Hoback solution
  - LDR and Comp Plan issues and amendments impacting water
  - Establishment of an Aquifer Protection Overlay
  - Establishment of a Water Quality Report for Teton County
  - New Class V Permits and renewals
  - Establishment of an Aquifer Protection Overlay
  - PWS Applications and non-compliance and enforcement

## Outreach

- Support clean water communication and public education with relevant content
- Develop a wide range of written materials to support POWJH advocacy efforts, including educational materials, action alerts, testimony on pending legislation, and meeting summaries
- Help raise funds for POWJH's program, including identifying new funding opportunities; preparing and submitting grant proposals and grant reports.
- Assist with public outreach events and other organization activities
- Communicate POWJH's goals, operational plans, and strategic vision
- Assist by writing letters to the editor op-eds, press releases, and other external communication content
- Prepare meeting summaries and other written and oral reports
- Organize meetings and act as a program lead

## Qualification/knowledge/skills:

- Four-year degree required. Science degree preferred.
- Three to four years of relevant policy and work experience is also required
- Media, web, legislative, and grassroots advocacy and grant writing experience desired
- Knowledge of water/environmental/justice/conservation issues and/or experience
- Knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is a plus
- Excellent Computer Skills - Microsoft Office, Excel, and PowerPoint
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Excellent organizational, time, and project management skills with the ability to manage multiple projects, shift priorities and meet deadlines
- Excellent interpersonal and leadership skills with the ability to relate to and motivate a diverse range of people, exercise cultural competence and inclusion and accept direction and constructive feedback
- Motivated self-starter able to work independently to execute their responsibilities while collaborating with other organizations with the ability to demonstrate initiative and a positive attitude.

## **Compensation**

- Competitive salary commensurate with experience. POWJH offers a competitive benefits package, including paid time off, health and dental insurance.

## **To Apply**

Send a letter of interest and resume to [meghan@protectourwaterjh.org](mailto:meghan@protectourwaterjh.org)

Subject: Water Quality Advocate job application.

Position open until filled.