Position Title: Regional Fisheries Officer

Main Function: To implement WWF Southern Cone Alliance (SCA) fishery strategy

Reports to: institutionally to WWF Chile’s Conservation Director and technically to the Steering Committee of the WWF SCA

Date: September, 2014

Background:

According to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), "85% of the world's fisheries are either fully exploited, over exploited, depleted, or recovering from depletion". Despite these alarming figures, the global seafood market is expected to grow another 50 million tons by 2025, urging fishermen, processors, suppliers, buyers and retailers to meet this demand. Aquaculture production is expanding each year but will only contribute to increase pressure on wild fisheries unless they are better managed. Through the Smart Fishing Initiative (SFI), WWF’s global fisheries programme, WWF tackles the many problems of overfishing to contribute to a sustainable future for our global fisheries. Our work entails: (i) advocating good governance and sustainable fisheries management with fisheries administrations, politicians and governments; promoting the adoption of a legal, transparent system that ensures our seafood is sustainably caught: (ii) spurring fishers, processors, sellers, buyers and retailers to commit to certified fisheries, and to purchase and sell seafood products that can be traced back to its origin: (iii) inciting financial institutions to create new, responsible investment mechanisms that put a halt on overfishing.

The Southern Cone Alliance (SCA) is a WWF marine initiative established in 2012 to safeguard the seas of the —Southern Cone| in South America – a precious marine ecosystem where fisheries of global importance take place - from overfishing, and to ensure that fishing and seafood production embrace long-term sustainability. Through the SCA, national WWF marine and fisheries offices in Chile, Peru and Argentina (via Fundación Vida Silvestre, its partner organization there), work closely together to drive sustainable markets in the Southern Cone and to conserve its priority marine ecosystems. Their efforts are supported by WWF’s Market Transformation Initiative (MTI) and Smart Fishing Initiative (SFI) whose aim is to tip forage fish, whitefish and farmed salmon markets towards responsible practices.

The SCA’s overall goal is to build market demand for sustainable seafood from the Southern Cone oceans, to improve fisheries management and governance, and to extend achieved net gains through robust marine spatial planning and the designation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The SCA has a clear set of markets and governance objectives:

Markets:
- Advance sustainable production and sourcing for 41 per cent of global forage fish via the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification programme that recognizes and rewards sustainable fishing. More particularly, achieve MSC certification for the Peruvian anchovy, the world’s largest fishery in Chile and Peru.
- Move forward sustainable production and sourcing for 9 per cent of global whitefish stocks including hake, hoki and whiting fisheries through MSC certification.
- Advocacy (EBM) approaches, as well as the Precautionary Principle.
- Advocate with local fishing authorities for effective governance.
- Ensure that all large fishing and carrier vessels involved in the above fisheries fish in a fully transparent way, using vessel monitoring systems and human or electronic observers on board.
- Advance marine spatial planning and create new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). SCA Strategy.
Job Description:
This position reports to the WWF Chile’s Conservation Director and has a dotted line with WWF in Latin America through its Regional Fisheries Coordinator. He/she coordinates with Smart fishing and Market Transformation initiatives, and follows up technical guidance established by the Southern Cone Alliance Steering Committee to which it reports on a regular basis. The main responsibility is to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the SCA Strategy.

Ideal candidates will show initiative, have good judgement and be skilled at interacting with a wide range of stakeholders nationally, regionally and internationally, from fishermen to government officers. The candidate will have experience in fundraising, be knowledgeable in fisheries, fishing law and regulations, international ocean law and policy. In addition, the candidate will have excellent Spanish and English oral and written communication skills and an ability to work comfortably with a wide variety of stakeholders.

I. Roles and Responsibilities:

S/he supports the Implementation Team (composed by the Fishery Officers of WWF Peru, WWF Chile and FVSA), specifically on regional/common activities, in coordination with the implementing offices, and technically reporting to the Steering Committee and donors. Specific responsibilities of the SCA Regional Fisheries Officer include:

- Ensure deliverables on the SCA Strategy and agreed workplan;
- Engage internal and external partners for regional conservation results, including SCA Steering Committee members;
- Support implementing offices on implementing workplans, coordinate monitoring and reporting to their action plans;
- Support fundraising for the implementation of the SCA Strategy
- Organize monitoring and reporting of the SCA strategy and reporting to Steering Committee according to agreed schedules of WWF Network Standards;
- Comply with WWF Network Standards for monitoring and reporting templates;
- Implement adaptive management, proposing to the Steering Committee adaptation of SCA workplan and new activities;
- Update the SCA strategy based on the recommendations and information provided by the Steering Committee, and propose updates to the Steering Committee for approval;
- Contribute to agenda and preparations for SCA Steering Committee meetings in consultation with the Chairperson and Implementation Team;
- Ensure action points are followed through and communicated in between meetings;
- Engaging SCA Steering Committee members to support their agreed commitments to the PIA;
- Organize annual in-person meetings of the Implementation Team.

II. Supervisory Responsibility:

Supervises consultants and staff if required.
III. Working Relationships:
   a) Internal:
      • Works in the WWF Chile office and interacts with other WWF Fishery Officers in Peru, Chile and Argentina to ensure delivery of their contributions to the overall SCA Strategic Plan. Works together with the planning and administrative teams of WWF Chile in order to implement SCA workplan.
      • Works closely with the WWF network, in particular with the SFI and the MTI.
   b) External:
      • Interacts with other conservation organizations, government agencies, local communities, indigenous people, fishery unions, research institutes, universities, and extractive sector to provide and obtain information and coordinate activities.

IV. Minimum Requirements:

Required qualifications
1. Bachelor in environmental sciences, marine biology, fishing biology, fishing engineering, or similar.
2. Desirable Master or PhD degree in relevant field of study (fisheries, marine sciences, natural resources management, fisheries policy and law)

Experience
• Experience in negotiation with government, companies and/or social organizations
• At least five years of accredited working experience in project and relationship management
• Experience in fundraising
• Experience in policy advocacy, communication and campaigning
• Entrepreneurial ability

Required skills and competencies
• Is effective in working under pressure and enjoy working with different types of individuals, personalities and cultural backgrounds.
• Distinct negotiation skills and assertiveness.
• Highly proactive, independent and flexible.
• Strategic thinking and planning.
• Above average creativity.
• Excellent facilitation and communication skills.
• Flair for solving complex problems.
• Highly flexible, organizational skills.
• Excellent command of Spanish and English
• Willingness to travel nationally and internationally25% of time
• Driving license.

Salary: Commensurate with experience and responsibilities.

How to apply: Please send a resume or CV (maximum 3 pages) and a cover letter to postulaciones@wwf.cl by October 3, 2014 at the latest. The subject should read Regional Fisheries Officer. The cover letter should describe personal and professional reasons for applying, and explain the relationship between the candidate’s experience and the position requirements and activities.

Please note: WWF will not respond to individual telephone or email inquiries about this employment opportunity.