

WENTWORTH GROUP

OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS

Position

Program Manager, Environmental Accounts, Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists

The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists

The Wentworth Group was formed in 2002 as an independent group of scientists, economists and business people with the objective of better connecting science to public policy in Australia. We work with governments, business leaders and citizens to improve the long term management and conservation of the Australian landscape.

Environmental accounting has been one of the Wentworth Group's five core priorities over the past decade. The Wentworth Group's *Accounting for Nature* model was first published by the Wentworth Group in 2008. It was designed to provide a practical and robust system to measure and track changes in the biophysical condition of environmental assets such as native vegetation, native fauna, soil, rivers, wetlands and estuaries.

In 2015, the Wentworth Group in association with NRM Regions Australia completed a continent-wide trial to test the practical application of the *Accounting for Nature* model at a landscape scale. Following the success of this trial, the Wentworth Group revised the method (*Accounting for Nature*, 2016) and advocated for a framework for a regionally based system of national environmental accounts to measure changes in the condition of Australia's environmental assets to inform local, regional and national land use planning and management (www.wentworthgroup.org/programs/environmental-accounts/).

In 2017, the Wentworth Group collaborated with three enterprises as part of a new trial to examine the feasibility of developing private sector environmental condition accounts: Kilter Rural, an agri-business managing mixed irrigated cropping and environmental grazing across aggregated farms in northern Victoria; Austral Fisheries who operate a Marine Stewardship Council certified Patagonian toothfish fishery in the World Heritage Heard Island and McDonald Islands region in the Southern Ocean; and the Tasmanian Land Conservancy for their Five Rivers Reserve located within the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. Early outcomes of these trials are described in the report: www.wentworthgroup.org/2018/09/private-sector-trials-of-accounting-for-nature/2018/.

We have since been approached by government and private sector organisations to use the *Accounting for Nature* method to measure the condition of a range of environmental assets to assist in informing the design, delivery and evaluation of programs, including measuring the co-benefits of land sector carbon abatement and water quality projects. We are now seeking a specialist to manage this work.

Role

We are seeking a scientist with extensive experience in data analysis, GIS and field surveys to join the Wentworth Group Secretariat to manage the environmental accounts program.

This 12 month position will involve advising on accreditation standards and establishing processes for the broader adoption of environmental accounting in Australia. It will also involve building capacity within governments, NRM regions and the private sector to undertake environmental condition accounting, including conducting workshops and supporting field trials of the *Accounting for Nature* model across diverse landscapes.

The suitable candidate will have:

- Tertiary qualifications in environmental science, ecology or related discipline;
- Have at least 5 years' experience in natural resource management. Experience in environmental accounting is desirable;
- Proficiency in data analysis, GIS and report writing;
- Extensive experience in field surveys and data collection;
- Well-developed communication skills and a personable, patient character;
- High attention to detail and good time management skills;
- Ability to work well both independently and in a team; and
- Australian citizenship or permanent residency, or have a visa to work in Australia.

Location

Based in Sydney. Must be able to travel regularly, including to remote field sites.

Remuneration

Salary package commensurate with the qualifications and skills of the successful candidate within the range \$80,000 to \$100,000 (including superannuation).

How to apply

Please email the following documents to csteinfeld@wentworthgroup.org

- A short cover letter explaining why you are the best candidate for this role; and
- Your curriculum vitae.

All questions to Dr Celine Steinfeld, Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, 02 9251 3811