Balance Hydrologics

Position: Engineer / Hydrologist

Location: Santa Cruz Office

Position Type: Full-time

Educational Level: Four-year degree, Graduate degree a plus

Balance Hydrologics (Balance) seeks a highly motivated Engineer / Hydrologist to join our team of hydrologists, geomorphologists, and engineers in our Santa Cruz office. We are looking for a team member with approximately 3–6 years of work experience, a passion for environmental fluid mechanics, stream and wetland restoration, and/or green infrastructure.

Who We Are

Balance is a specialized firm, recognized as being a leader in the analysis of watershed, channel, groundwater and wetland dynamics. We have a collegial and collaborative environment where our engineers, hydrologists, and geomorphologists are committed to delivering successful project results through in-depth analyses. Most investigations are designed to measure and control the effects of specific land uses on aquatic, riparian, or wetland habitat values. Our emphasis is on using multiple lines of field, analytical, historical, and regional evidence to provide maximum assurance given the constrained time and resources typically available. Pragmatically, most projects are a combination of field trials and investigations, supplemented where needed by simulations and archival/historical analyses

We celebrate the differences—age, color, physical ability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, language, national origin, race, religion, veteran status, and other characteristics—that make each of us unique.

Who You Are

Working with Balance staff and specialists from other firms, you will apply expertise in hydrology, hydraulics, environmental fluid mechanics, storm water management, and engineering design to projects covering a wide range of water resources analysis and design challenges. You will carry out assessments of channel design and stability, as well as modeling of watershed processes and environmental hydrodynamics. Assignments may involve field and analytical elements, plus coordination with consultants in other disciplines and regulatory agency professionals.

You enjoy working outdoors, and you have experience in scientific data collection, possibly topographic and/or bathymetric surveying, stream gauging, sediment studies, or other related skills. You are comfortable working in and around water and you have experience working with tools.

Education/Experience/Licensing:

- Bachelor of Science degree from an accredited engineering program; and
- 3-6 years with hydrology, hydraulics, environmental fluid mechanics, storm water management, and engineering design experience.
- Certification as a Professional Engineer (PE) in California, EIT with the ability to obtain PE within the next year.

Your Responsibilities with Balance

Balance seeks a candidate with experience including but not be limited to the following:

 Planning, scheduling, and conducting the technical aspects of multiple projects as assigned by project managers and principals.



- Effectively managing and completing tasks or projects which may take several years for approval and implementation.
- Drafting engineering construction documents using Civil3D software and developing the associated specifications and cost estimates.
- Building, calibrating, and analyzing hydrologic and hydraulic models in HEC-HMS, HEC-RAS, and a variety of other software packages.
- Evaluating geomorphology of project sites with applications in stream restoration design and developing channel management strategies.
- Analyzing watershed characteristics with GIS software and preparing figures to communicate findings.
- Studying drainage of project sites—both in wildland and urban environments—including design of detention systems and hydraulic structures and preparing drainage reports.
- Preparing proposals and project budgets for senior review based on discussions with clients and subcontractors.
- Working independently and collaboratively in a multi-disciplinary environment.
- Clearly and concisely communicating, both orally and in writing, basic technical information to individuals and small groups.
- Maintaining outside professional activities (such as presentations or publications) or community involvement.
- Managing streamflow and/or sediment transport gaging stations, including development of annual streamflow and/or sediment records and reports.
- Conducting topographic and bathymetric surveys, sediment transport, and performing construction and postconstruction monitoring activities.

Work Environment & Physical Demands

Performance of duties and tasks requires use of standard office equipment, including work at computer terminals. May be required to use step stools and carry records and files.

Stream gaging and soils evaluations may require the use of bridge-board, cable-suspension equipment, and sand or bentonite. Work will include field surveys in challenging environments and adverse weather and uneven ground, often with the need to transport and operate associated survey equipment. Must be able to lift and carry 50 lbs.

What Balance Will Do for You

Balance will welcome you to our close-knit team working on habitat restoration planning, design, and implementation, as well as general water resources management projects – all working towards improving our world and its wild places.

Balance believes in work-life balance, three weeks paid vacation (increases with company seniority), two weeks sick pay, and nine holidays. Balance currently makes an annual contribution equivalent to 3% of your full yearly compensation to the 401(k) plan. Balance offers comprehensive medical and dental insurance plans with monthly premiums currently covered by Balance at over 98% for employees and 95% their dependents. A vision plan with options that don't require any premium payment on your part.

We encourage our staff to continue to grow their careers and research through conference participation or providing a budget for research projects.

Balance Hydrologics is an Equal Opportunity Employer, committed to a diverse and inclusive work environment. (EOE M/V/F/D)

To Apply

To apply please send résumé and cover letter referencing the position of interest and outlining qualifications to the attention of Colleen Haraden at hiring@balancehydro.com