

**JOB TITLE****Chief Scientist/Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment & Tourism (MNRET)/Republic of Palau**

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**SUMMARY**

As the Chief Scientist for MNRET, the incumbent advises senior management on complex aspects of extremely broad programs. He/she provides technical & scientific support to all the Bureaus and offices under the MNRET. The Chief Scientist reports directly to the Minister.

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**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

The Chief Scientist ensures that MNRET has a strategic science vision for applied Conservation Science and collects and manages data for terrestrial systems. The Chief Scientist identifies and classifies conservation priorities and targets and assesses data to prioritize areas for conservation. The Chief Scientist conducts scientific surveys and research, records data, writes reports and develops proposals in order to support the coordination of conservation programs within MNRET. He/she conducts research to add to the body of knowledge in support of MNRET and its mandate. He/she collects and manages data for terrestrial systems.

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**DUTIES & SCOPE**

- Perform fieldwork including ecosystem surveys, assessment and field effectiveness monitoring.
  - Provide technical support and expertise in the disciplines of forest ecology and protection of terrestrial resources.
  - Provide expert advice and technical support to MNRET related to forest and terrestrial ecology, endangered species, taxonomy, critical habitats, and conservation.
  - Develops uniform ranking systems for Protected Areas Network (PAN) sites, species protection needs, and PAN connectivity using existing and proposed criteria to refine the National PAN Management Strategy.
  - Develops and recommends policies, rules and regulations; serves as consultant and advisor to program administrators and others regarding legislative and congressional mandates and on technical and overall problems in conservation.
  - Plans and develops long-range programs/plans including the prescribing of standards, methods and objectives.
  - Ensures the development, promotion and implementation of best practices required to achieve the tangible, lasting results required by MNRET.
  - Coordinates and/or participates in training program personnel; works with various government and private organizations to coordinate plans and activities, partnerships, mutual agreements, etc.
  - Evaluates proposals, recommendations and trends; coordinates resource planning, supervise lower level professionals; and performs other related duties as assigned
  - Travel internationally as required.
  - May work in variable weather conditions at remote locations, hazardous terrain and/or under physically demanding circumstances.
  - Other duties as requested by the Minister.
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**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

- Master's degree in Forest Ecology or related field plus 10 years related experience in applied Conservation Science.
  - Supervisory experience, including motivating, leading, setting objectives and managing performance.
  - Knowledge of current and evolving trends in relevant discipline.
  - Knowledge of Best Management Practices in relevant discipline.
  - Experience in strategic thinking, analytical ability and technical skills.
  - Experience making excellent presentations to a wide variety of audiences.
  - Peer reviewed publications in scientific journals.
  - Fundraising experience for conservation wide programs and projects.
  - Experience with networking in the scientific community.
  - Experience working and communicating with a wide range of people.
  - Experience in decision making with legal, financial and reputational results and consequences.
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**PREFERRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & EXPERIENCE**

- Specializes in forest ecology.
  - Ability to resolve large-scale, complex problems through systematic, thorough studies.
  - Ability to propose, implement and manage short and long term programmatic goals.
  - Ability to lead and/or participate in the formulation of broad, strategic policies.
  - Demonstrated experience using listening, diplomacy, and tact to build strong relationships and motivate senior managers, donors, partners, staff and volunteers.
  - Proven negotiation and persuasion skills.
  - Ability to communicate and deal effectively and tactfully with all levels of management, staff and external parties, including creating and conveying a compelling vision.
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