



Environmental Defenders Office

POSITION DESCRIPTION – SOLICITOR / SENIOR SOLICITOR

Key responsibilities

- Provide legal advice, representation and education to EDO communities on a broad range of public interest environmental law issues and disputes.
- Engage in litigation, policy and law reform, and outreach to achieve EDO's strategic outcomes.
- Comply with EDO's policies and procedures, and legal obligations.
- Deliver legal services in a culturally competent manner and work with clients from a wide variety of backgrounds.
- Supervise the work of volunteers who undertake tasks such as legal research, document preparation, etc.

Duties

- Provide legal advice and representation to the public on a wide range of legal matters relevant to the environment.
- Have carriage of litigation undertaken in the relevant jurisdiction.
- Undertake public education and outreach, including developing online resources and fact sheets, and the conduct of workshops or seminars with a focus on outreach for vulnerable communities.
- Engage in law reform related to environmental law and policy, including participating in government policy processes and by developing and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders.
- Comply with professional obligations.
- Participate in and support EDO fundraising.
- Other reasonable requests made by the Managing Lawyer or Director, Healthy Environment and Justice from time to time.

General

All staff have a responsibility to:

- develop and maintain a good knowledge of the EDO's role and policies
- represent the EDO in a positive and effective manner
- attend, and contribute actively and constructively at staff meetings
- maintain appropriate records, assist with office administration, such as files, computer and precedent systems
- seek opportunities for personal and professional development, particularly related to the team and position's specific areas of responsibility
- respond to requests by clients and fellow staff in a knowledgeable, professional, constructive and respectful manner

- provide accurate and timely data and information for reporting, fundraising and communications purposes.

Note: Senior Solicitors will be expected to work closely with the Managing Lawyer to develop and implement planning for each program, and work with a higher level of autonomy and self-direction. This may include leading on media work, seminars, publications, as well as having carriage of litigation, law reform and advice work.

EDO Values

- **Commitment** – We are committed to a united organisation, to each other, to collaboration, to justice, to our communities and to creating a world where nature thrives.
- **Diversity** – We are respectful of and welcome diversity of staff, volunteers, offices, environmental regions, communities, stakeholders.
- **Integrity** – We work effectively, efficiently, strategically, professionally and ethically; “justice is in our nature”.
- **Visionary** – We lead change and environmental empowerment using innovation, creativity, and courage.

MORE DETAIL

Commitment – We are committed to a united organisation, to each other, to collaboration, to justice, to our communities and to creating a world where nature thrives.

- We are committed to providing excellent legal services and resources, informed by the best available science, in order to empower clients and communities
- We are committed to improving our planet and society
- We care for EDO’s clients and stakeholders
- We are fearless in the face of adversity, and care for each other as we face this adversity

Diversity – We are respectful of and welcome diversity of staff, volunteers, environmental regions, communities and stakeholders.

- We respect First Nations Peoples’ knowledge and experience, and work with them to protect their country and culture
- We acknowledge that the law has not always been just
- We dedicate ourselves to understanding the diversity of our people and culture
- We welcome and respect our own differences and learn from them, and collaborate to achieve our greatest potential
- We are great lawyers and great people, with open hearts and open minds
- We respect the different places our stakeholders come from and strive to help them, even if their worldviews don’t align completely with ours

Integrity – We work effectively, efficiently, strategically, professionally and ethically: “justice is in our nature”.

- We are truthful with ourselves and others
- We are nonpartisan and inspire trust in our clients, stakeholders and government
- We respect the world's resources and make maximum productive use of the resources entrusted to us

Visionary – We lead change and environmental empowerment through innovation, creativity and courage.

- We expand the boundaries with creativity and skill, pioneering new legal pathways to a healthier, safer world and inspiring others
- We are inquisitive, curious and persistent: exploring new ideas and embracing change

- We boldly challenge the status quo while providing solutions to our most pressing challenges