

LESLY SWANSON



PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Accomplished professional with proven leadership ability and experience collaborating with multi-discipline teams and field personnel. Utilizes strong strategic planning, project management, communication, and technical skills to address environmental regulatory programs and budgets. Possesses a combination of technical, scientific, and business backgrounds, and a working knowledge of Salt River Project and the Biological and Cultural Resources Services department.

EXPERIENCE

Salt River Project - Tempe, Arizona

2008 - Present

Principal Environmental Compliance Scientist / Senior Environmental Scientist / Environmental Scientist

- ◆ Avian Protection Program Manager
 - Provide technical subject matter expertise on bird/ power line interactions for Biological and Cultural Resource Services, SRP, and other industry interest groups
 - Improve internal tracking and implementation through acting as avian database Product Owner: provide technical (legal, regulatory, process, etc.) direction to IT teams and Business Analyst
 - Manage Federal permit and compliance reporting obligations
 - Monitor and review environmental laws and regulations impacting program
 - Cultivate and maintain relationships with Federal and State agencies
 - Interface with customers to address bird complaints, issues, and concerns
- ◆ Transmission and Distribution Operations and Maintenance (O&M)
 - Ensure O&M activities are in compliance with environmental laws and regulations
 - Cultivate and maintain relationships with Federal and State agencies
 - Draft environmental documents required for permit and environmental compliance
 - Work collaboratively with industry personnel to develop training for Federal partners
 - Advise personnel on environmental compliance measures and provide technical details to ensure implementation of measures can be applied in the field
- ◆ Transmission Line Siting
 - Comply with Federal and State laws concerning protected species and native plants
 - Provide technical review of siting documents to ensure accuracy and compliance with environmental laws and regulations
 - Participate in transmission line siting evaluations and attend public meetings and open houses
- ◆ Environmental Compliance
 - Achieve collaboration between departments on environmental components of projects
 - Conduct onsite training and monitoring for field personnel
 - Facilitate biological efforts and provide technical environmental and biological review
 - Manage consultant contracts
 - Coordinate environmental outreach and education efforts
 - Engage public, State, and Federal agencies

Superior Technical Resources - Tempe, Arizona

Contract Biologist for SRP

The Atlantic Group - Tempe, Arizona

Contract Biologist for SRP

SKILLS

- ◆ Communication
 - Media training and voice coaching
 - Enhance corporate environmental image through public speaking and interaction with customers, media, agency, and regulatory personnel
 - Development of comments, briefs, videos, and informational environmental material
- ◆ Leadership and Collaboration
 - Project Manager drafting Transmission and Distribution Operations and Maintenance Plan
 - Co-Lead of Western Utility Group (WUG) Forest Service Training effort
 - Advise multi-discipline teams on environmental requirements of water and power projects
- ◆ Strategic Thinking
 - Understand the big picture and history behind prior decisions made by Biological and Cultural Resource Services staff
 - Integrate knowledge from multiple departments and backgrounds to plan for present and future projects, issues, and challenges
- ◆ Management and Administration
 - Budgeting and accounting through tracking contracts and managing consultants
 - Responsible for team reporting and deadlines
 - Ability to negotiate with stakeholders in order to reach consent on a project or requirement

EDUCATION

Arizona State University - Tempe, Arizona

Master of Business Administration

California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo, California

Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences and Minor in Environmental Management

Columbia University's Biosphere 2 Center - Oracle, Arizona

Earth Semester

HONORS AND AFFILIATIONS

- ◆ Past Chair / Treasurer of the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC)
- ◆ Arizona Center for Rural Leadership Class 31
- ◆ Southwest Valley Chamber of Commerce Board Member
- ◆ Leadership West Class 18
- ◆ W.P. Carey School of Business Ambassador