

Application Deadline: open until filled**Job Title:** General Counsel**Location:** Portland, OR**Position Type:** Permanent/full-time**Expected Start Date:** Summer 2021

Who we are: The Freshwater Trust (TFT) is a non-profit leader in watershed analysis, restoration/conservation program design, and implementation. Our team members are building tools and creating and testing new solutions that will help to create resiliency in our rivers. With a mission of preserving and restoring freshwater ecosystems, our approach is driven by science, data and results (see our [Core Values](#)).

With headquarters in Portland, OR, TFT employs 45+ team members across Oregon, Idaho, Washington and California. We currently have three physical offices in Portland, Ashland, OR and Sacramento, CA. Our team members range in background and skillset; teams include a philanthropy and fundraising team, communications team, science and analytics team, restoration team, legal team, finance team, and administrative and systems support.

Who you are: TFT is seeking a proactive and experienced General Counsel who will apply their knowledge, managing all legal matters and risks for our innovative organization. The primary objective of this role is to provide operational, legal and performance risk management at a strategic level. The General Counsel will be responsible for examining and drafting business agreements and contracts with outside parties, may involve intellectual property, and ensuring legal compliance. To ensure success, the General Counsel needs to have sound knowledge and understanding of applicable laws and regulations, governance and corporate structures, and the ability to make prudent legal decisions. Top candidates will be business-minded, agile, and proactive problem solvers and team players.

What will you be doing?:

- Provide expert legal advice on new or existing laws and legal rights that would impact functionality of the business
- Provide strategic counseling and legal advice for a variety of organizational initiatives
- Provide legal counsel and negotiation of contracts related to technology, including privacy and data protection, information management, technology outsourcing and procurement, software licensing, cloud service providers and data/services hosted by third parties, software development, and data and analytics
- Manage 1-2 direct reports within the legal department, and work closely with financial, operational, and programmatic staff
- Monitor and maintain current knowledge of current trends in relevant areas of law and pursue ongoing professional development to maintain current knowledge on best practices
- Liaising with outside counsel as applicable

What is your background and skillset?:

- Juris Doctorate degree
- Member in good standing, of at least one US State Bar and willingness to meet the requirements of membership in the Oregon State Bar through in-house counsel, reciprocity, or other avenue. California State Bar membership a plus

- Minimum 7 years of experience with an established law firm or in-house legal department
- Demonstrated ability to learn business requirements, analyze legal risks, and propose appropriate solutions at a pace consistent with the organization's operations
- Experience with the structuring of various types of legal entities
- Experience with business transactions involving financing and blending of various funding types (e.g., debt, equity, government subsidies, etc.)
- Experience advising on legal and business issues that arise as companies scale and grow
- Experience with government contracting, procurement, and funding
- Familiarity with nonprofit governance
- Knowledge related to employment, insurance, corporate compliance, contract drafting and business law
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, with all levels of staff

Additional skills and experience:

- Experience working with a board of directors and/ or Board Governance Engagement Committee
- Experience working as part of an executive team, in a fast-paced work environment
- Intellectual property

Benefits:

- Generous benefits package, including full health and dental coverage, 5 weeks of paid time off, automatic retirement contributions, over 10 paid holidays per year, cell phone reimbursement and more.

Application Instructions:

- Supply a Cover Letter, Resume and a list of 3 References into a single PDF not to exceed 5MB.
- Submit required information and documentation at:
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/941f868e02f243389d4038f188d0850f>

Please, no phone or email inquiries about this position. Applicants must have legal permission to work in the U.S.

Interested candidates from historically underrepresented communities are strongly encouraged to apply. The Freshwater Trust is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its selection of candidates for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex or sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, military service, family medical history, legal source of income, gender identity, political affiliation, or family leave obligations. ADA accommodations will be provided upon request.