



Job Announcement Senior Wood Scientist Western Wood Preservers Institute

About WWPI

WWPI is a nonprofit member trade organization with offices in Vancouver, Wash., representing the interests of the preserved wood products industry throughout western North America for nearly 80 years. The membership consists of companies that either manufacture products, are directly affiliated or provide a service to the preserved wood industry. The primary activity areas of the WWPI include legislative and regulatory programs aimed at sustaining a viable western North America preserved wood industry.

WWPI's mission is to advance the industry through coordinated strategies that:

- Build public and customer confidence in treated wood products
- Support balanced and science-based environmental regulations
- Protect, support, and expand the production and use of preservative- and fire-retardant treated wood products manufactured by its members

Scope of Position

The Senior Wood Scientist leads the Institute's technical programs and serves as a primary scientific and technical resource on preservative- and fire-retardant treated wood products. The position reports directly to the Executive Director and may also be assigned other internal initiatives, external projects, and operational responsibilities consistent with the needs of the Institute.

This remote, full-time position can be based anywhere in the United States or Canada.

The Senior Wood Scientist serves as the primary staff lead for the Lumber & Plywood, Fire Retardant, and Utility Pole committees. In this capacity, the position coordinates committee activities, provides technical guidance, supports the development and implementation of committee priorities, and regularly consults with the Executive Director regarding activities, issues, and strategic opportunities.

Job Responsibilities and Duties

General

- Develop relationships with members to ensure an understanding of their issues and concerns through industry meetings and regular correspondence.
- Research and analyze technical, scientific, code, and standards-related issues; develop recommended Institute positions; and coordinate member review and input.
- Represent WWPI at conferences, technical meetings, association meetings, and other industry events, and coordinate related travel in accordance with Institute policies.
- Provide technical support for the Institute's Regulatory Affairs and Agriculture & Aquatic program activities.
- Maintain accurate weekly time and expense reports that document resources allocated to Institute programs and activities.
- Provide counsel to the Executive Director and always represent WWPI with integrity and character.

Codes, Standards, and Technical Advocacy

- Promote the appropriate use of preservative-treated wood products in building codes and standards while identifying opportunities to expand or clarify provisions governing their use, including through participation in the ICC Building Code Action Committee (BCAC) and ASTM Committees D07 on wood.
- Represent and advance the interests of fire-retardant treated wood products in the development and interpretation of building codes, fire codes, wildland-urban interface (WUI) codes, standards, test methods, and regulatory requirements, including through participation in the ICC Fire Code Action Committee (FCAC) and ASTM Committee E05 on Fire Standards.
- Participate in relevant American Wood Protection Association (AWPA) committees and task groups; monitor standards development activities, technical proposals, and related proceedings; and advance the Institute's technical positions by coordinating member input and developing scientifically sound comments that support western species.
- Serve as the primary technical representative for ASC O5 and monitor technical developments affecting wood pole specifications, dimensions, design values, conditioning, inspection, and performance.

Lumber & Plywood

- Manage and advance the Institute's Lumber & Plywood program to protect and expand the continued acceptance, appropriate use, and market access of preserved lumber and plywood.
- Represent the Institute in meetings with regulators, building and fire officials, and procurement officials to communicate industry concerns and advance the appropriate use of preserved lumber and plywood.
- Serve as the staff lead for the Lumber & Plywood Committee, including coordinating meetings, preparing agendas and presentations, maintaining meeting minutes, managing the committee budget, and supporting the implementation of committee priorities.

Utility Pole, NAWPC

- Manage and advance the Institute's Utility Pole program to protect and expand the role of preserved wood poles in electric and telecommunication infrastructure, including grid modernization, wildfire mitigation, system hardening, and resilience planning.
- Build and maintain effective coalitions with utility, forestry, manufacturing, and infrastructure organizations to advocate for balanced and evidence-based policies while ensuring that preserved wood poles remain a viable alternative to undergrounding.
- Oppose legislative, regulatory, and policy proposals that would unnecessarily mandate or favor undergrounding, including by monitoring policy developments, developing technical and economic arguments, participating in stakeholder meetings, and representing the Institute at relevant industry and association meetings.
- Coordinate with the Executive Director to develop NAWPC activities and collaborate with cooperating associations, including attending NAWPC meetings and participating in associations' membership meetings.
- Serve as the staff lead for the Utility Pole Committee, including coordinating meetings, preparing agendas and presentations, maintaining meeting minutes, managing the committee budget, and supporting the implementation of committee priorities.

Fire Retardant

- Manage and develop the Institute's fire-retardant-treated wood programs, including technical outreach to strengthen understanding and confidence among building officials, fire officials, and other decision-makers regarding the performance, applications, and code-compliant use of fire-retardant treated wood products.
- Monitor and evaluate emerging technical issues, research, testing protocols, and regulatory proposals that may affect the manufacture, qualification, acceptance, or use of fire-retardant-treated wood products.
- Serve as the staff lead for the Fire Retardant Committee, including coordinating committee activities, preparing agendas and presentations, maintaining meeting minutes, managing the committee budget, and advancing committee priorities.

Qualifications

- Master's degree or PhD in Chemical Engineering or Wood Science.
- Work experience in wood treating, wood products, or building materials.
- Proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, and Outlook.
- Strong attention to detail and organizational skills, including ability to multi-task.
- Strong communication skills, including public speaking
- Willingness to travel throughout North America.

Start Date: Immediately

Location: Remote

Salary Range: \$100,000–\$120,000 annually, commensurate with experience

Benefits: Medical insurance, 401(k), PTO, bonus

How to Apply

Applicants should submit a résumé and cover letter to wsjob@wwpi.org by September 9.