



POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION OVERVIEW	
ABOUT US	Riverkeeper is New York’s premier water quality advocate. Our mission is to protect and restore the Hudson River from source to sea and safeguards drinking water supplies, through advocacy rooted in community partnerships, science and law. With an annual operating budget of \$5 million, Riverkeeper is a mid-sized not-for-profit operating in the Hudson Valley. This is an exciting opportunity to join a dynamic, mission-oriented organization. For more information, visit www.riverkeeper.org .
JOB TITLE	Boat Captain
DEPARTMENT	Advocacy, Policy and Planning Program
REPORTS TO	Senior Director, Advocacy, Policy and Planning
LOCATION	Hybrid work environment with a few days per month in the office (Ossining and/or Kingston) and 10 - 15 days per month on the boat.
POSITION SUMMARY	
<p>This is a rare opportunity for an individual with boat operation and maintenance experience to join an advocacy organization protecting clean water in the Hudson Valley and New York City. Maintaining an on-the-water presence is a defining element of Riverkeeper’s approach to water protection. Our boat operation is professional, reliable and respected. It serves as an icon for environmental activism in the Hudson Valley and is a visible reminder of Riverkeeper’s essential role – providing eyes, ears and a voice for the Hudson River.</p> <p>Riverkeeper boat patrols accommodate individuals and small groups – staff members, researchers, elected officials, journalists, filmmakers, law enforcement, ecologists, etc. – and provide an up-close, undistracted focus on the river and its needs from the river’s point of view. These experiences and conversations inspire a shift in perspective and a deepening of understanding and collaborations of all kinds. Along the way we build relationships with grassroots groups, anglers, boaters and others invested in the well-being of the river.</p> <p>Our patrol range is Waterford to the Upper Bay in New York Harbor. In New York Harbor we patrol the Harlem and the East River to the Throgs Neck. We also aim to patrol the Mohawk River/Erie Canal to Utica or Rome, and as far as Fort Edward on the Upper Hudson/Champlain Canal twice a year.</p>	
ESSENTIAL DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES	
<i>(This is not an exhaustive list of all job duties, responsibilities, and requirements.)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary responsibility is to oversee and coordinate the maintenance of three Riverkeeper vessels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a 36-foot wooden diesel powered Deadrise (the R. Ian Fletcher) ○ a 25-foot fiberglass Parker outboard (the Bob Boyle) ○ a 20-foot aluminum SeaArk outboard (the Sun Hill) • Operate the Fletcher. The Fletcher will be the primary vessel in use, with the Bob Boyle deployed for water quality monitoring conducted by our Science Program and other purposes as needed. A seasonal Captain is hired to operate the Boyle for the Science team, with support from the Boat Captain, during our monitoring season from May to October. • The Boat Captain will manage the schedule for the Fletcher, and other vessels as needed, in collaboration with members of Riverkeeper’s leadership team. The goal is to conduct regular patrols of the Hudson River estuary (from the Battery to Waterford) at least six times a year between April and November. Those patrols can include a variety of guests from staff to journalists, elected officials, scientists and supporters. Additional targeted outings will be scheduled on an as needed basis to support Riverkeeper’s advocacy, communications, science and fundraising needs. The Boat Captain will be responsible for documenting scenes from the river that can be shared with staff, the board, with the public on social media, and when needed with press and/or elected officials. 	



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- The Boat Captain is an integral part of our Watchdog Team, which receives, assesses and responds to reports from members of the public concerning pollution or other issues affecting the Hudson River and its tributaries. The Boat Captain is Riverkeeper’s primary watchdog, and a core goal of the boat patrol is to observe, investigate, report and assist in the resolution of illegal or harmful activities observed. To investigate and resolve watchdog concerns identified through the observations from the boat or those identified by members of the public, the Boat Captain will partner with Riverkeeper staff with various expertise (legal, communications, advocacy) as needed, on a case-by-case basis. Watchdog reports and investigations can yield legal enforcement actions, public awareness and sometimes press reports on river issues such as spills, illegal dumping and fish die-offs.

EXPERIENCE & COMPETENCIES

Research shows that women and people from under-represented groups often apply to jobs only if they meet 100% of The qualifications. Please know that no one ever meets 100% of the qualifications. If much of this describes you, we encourage you to apply.

- Deep experience and knowledge (at least 3-5 years) in the safe operation (as captain) and hands-on maintenance of 20’ to 36’ vessels, marine engines, and related mechanical systems required.
- The candidate must have extensive experience on the water, operating vessels (as captain), and ideally knowledge and experience on the Hudson River.
- Experience maintaining a wooden vessel is greatly preferred.
- Ability to conduct multi-day patrols that include some overnight stays.
- Project management skills and experience including managing relationships with subcontractors, boatyard, etc.
- A US Coast Guard “6 pack” license is preferred.
- Passion for Riverkeeper’s mission and restoring iconic waterways is a must.
- Outstanding oral communication skills, including comfort with public speaking as an ambassador for Riverkeeper in interactions with various individuals, from members of the public to senior agency officials and elected leaders.
- Prior advocacy experience is a plus.
- Preferred educational background: Training and knowledge in ecological science preferred. An undergraduate degree in a related field and/or direct knowledge earned by the equivalent time spent in the marine trades and vessel operation is required.
- Proficiency and working knowledge of social media platforms is desired including ability to shoot stills, video and write.
- Strong interpersonal skills and team player approach is essential, with ability to collaborate with advocates, scientists, attorneys, fundraisers and others on staff, and support ongoing partner cultivation from other organizations.
- Required safety certifications include: First Aid course, CPR training (within one year), and a New York State Boating Safety Certificate

OTHER EMPLOYMENT DETAILS

HOURS/SHIFTS	This exempt position is full time (40 hours/week). It requires flexibility to work outside of the normal work hours and weekends.
SALARY	Commensurate with experience.
BENEFITS	Riverkeeper offers healthcare, dental and vision, life and disability coverage, retirement savings plan match, annual professional development stipend, Paid Time Off (vacation, sick, personal days, floating holidays, most federal holidays, summer Fridays), and other benefits; office is closed between Christmas and New Year’s Day holidays.
OTHER	All employees are must be fully vaccinated for Covid-19.
HOW TO APPLY	Application process requires submission of a <u>cover letter and resume</u> via email to humanresources@riverkeeper.org . Please write ‘ Boat Captain ’ in the subject line. The position will remain open until filled.