



**JOB POSTED:** January 19, 2024  
**POSITION TITLE:** Vice President of DC Affairs  
**REPORTS TO:** PSPA President  
**COMPENSATION:** \$180,000-250,000  
**LOCATION:** Washington D.C.

The Pacific Seafood Processors Association (PSPA) seeks a Vice President of DC Affairs to advance its non-partisan policy goals in Washington DC. PSPA seeks candidates with the ability to conceptualize and execute high-level legislative and regulatory strategy, as well as provide advice and assistance to the PSPA staff, Board and other DC alliances. PSPA advocates for public policy outcomes that support the long-term success of the Alaska and Pacific Northwest seafood processing sector and its key stakeholders. PSPA builds trust with government policymakers, helping them understand the sector and its positive impact on their communities. The organization helps shape forward-thinking public policy discussions and build effective advocacy campaigns that advance its goals.

### **Organization Overview**

Pacific Seafood Processors Association (PSPA) is a nonprofit trade association representing seafood processing companies in the policy, regulatory, and legislative arenas since 1914. PSPA is dedicated to supporting and advocating for the Alaska seafood industry and the sustainable use of fishery resources. The organization serves as a respected, consolidated voice of the seafood processing industry in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. PSPA focuses on federal and state fisheries management and sustainability, access to seafood markets and consumers, seafood tracing and labeling systems, tax and trade, labor and workforce management, and environmental regulation. PSPA is a valuable resource for expertise on issues that impact our members, commercial fisheries, the seafood industry, and the communities in which we operate.

### **Overview of Responsibilities**

The VP of DC Affairs is responsible for proactively identifying Federal government-related risks to and opportunities for the U.S. seafood processing sector, specifically affecting the production of wild Alaska salmon, pollock, cod, crab, sablefish, halibut, as well as other commercial species, and developing and implementing adaptive strategies for minimizing risks and maximizing opportunities. The VP develops and maintains relationships with bipartisan Members of Congress and their staff, as well as Federal agency leaders and career staff, and advocates for actions promoting domestic seafood production. Government actions may include legislation, regulation, and policy development across multiple agencies affecting the seafood supply chain, including but not limited to issues involving access to and sustainable use of public resources,

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[www.pspafish.net](http://www.pspafish.net)

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plant and vessel operation, access to foreign and domestic consumer markets, and any other issue affecting U.S. seafood production and global market competitiveness. The strategies may involve independent work, collaboration with other trade associations and seafood-related organizations, public and/or press engagement, and external contractors as needed. The VP of DC Affairs also develops and implements strategies for raising and distributing PAC funding.

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- 5+ years on the Hill (Legislative Aide or above), and/or 10+ years in DC Government Relations
- Ability to secure and maintain registration as a lobbyist, maintain awareness of updates to lobbying laws, and ensure PSPA and personal compliance with lobbying disclosure and contribution reporting laws
- Knowledge of natural resource policy, laws, and regulations, with fisheries and seafood experience preferred.
- Excellent writing skills, with ability to compose in-depth, technical, and persuasive comment letters
- Excellent research skills, with in-depth knowledge of Congressional and regulatory research tools
- Proven experience navigating complex environments and collaborating with diverse stakeholders to achieve policy objectives.
- Ability to independently assess the impact of far-ranging proposals on the seafood sector and proactively develop and implement strategic initiatives.
- Ability to assimilate complex information from multiple disciplines/perspectives and deliver effective concise summaries
- Ability to multi-task, meet deadlines, provide fast response to board and staff needs, and work under significant pressure
- Ability to work independently as well as collaborate with diverse groups
- Ability to build consensus and employ conflict resolution strategies and demonstrated track record of action-oriented influence with key decision-makers
- Experience with the Alaska and PNW seafood industry preferred
- Experience working with external stakeholder groups relevant to the sector

### **Key Responsibilities/Essential Functions**

The major responsibilities of this position include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Staying current on industry trends, issues and regulatory rulemaking developments, particularly in the areas of trade (e.g. USTR and DOC/ITA), labor (e.g. H2-B visas), USDA/food policies, NOAA Fisheries (e.g. resource management and access, science-based decision-making), tax, and infrastructure/ports.
- Conceptualize, develop, adapt and execute advocacy strategies
- Willingness to organize political fundraisers and attend political events on behalf of PSPA
- Advise the PSPA staff, Board and other DC alliances
- Collaborate with DC lobbyist alliances

- Maintain relationships with 12+ Hill offices and 6+ agencies
- Support legislative drafting and negotiations
- Draft written public comment in response to proposed rulemaking and/or policy actions
- Educate new Hill and agency staff on North Pacific fishery and seafood sector and issues of importance to their constituents and to PSPA
- Communicating complex industry operation information, needs, and strategies to general policy audiences
- Strategically draw from member company expertise to develop and advance PSPA positions
- Engage with member companies on understanding impacts of public policy within PSPA's scope of work

### **Work Environment**

DC-based home office (or other flexible arrangements, such a shared office or co-working space) with willingness to spend time in congressional and agency offices as needed and to travel periodically. Accommodation of Pacific and Alaska time zones participate in member meetings.

### **Compensation**

Compensation is commensurate with experience. This position is exempt, and the salary range is \$180,000 to 250,000, based on experience. In addition, PSPA offers a generous package of employee benefits, including medical, eye and dental insurance and retirement benefits.

### **Application Deadline**

This position is being advertised until filled. Initial interviews will begin after February 10, 2024.

PSPA recruits, employs, trains, compensates, and promotes without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, marital status, status as a protected veteran, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law. PSPA employment policies are inclusive and respect both the spirit and letter of the laws of equal employment opportunity.

For further information, please contact Julie Decker at 907-305-0586 and/or submit a letter of interest, resume, and sample of your writing to [julied@pspafish.net](mailto:julied@pspafish.net)