



Position Description

Food & Agriculture Policy Adviser

REPORTING TO:	Head of Political Advocacy
WORK LOCATION:	Melbourne (Wurundjeri Country), Sydney (Gadigal Country), Canberra (Ngunnawal Country) or Brisbane (Turrbal Country)
GRADE:	6
SALARY (FTE):	\$121,749 per annum plus 12.5% superannuation
STATUS:	Full-time, fixed term until December 2028
HOURS:	37.5 per week

WHO WE ARE

We're the Australian Conservation Foundation, Australia's national environment organisation.

Since 1965, we've protected the air we breathe, the water we drink and the places we love. Driven by the power of people, we won World Heritage listing for the Great Barrier Reef and Kakadu National Park; we secured the \$10 billion national clean energy bank and we returned precious water to the rivers of the Murray-Darling.

We influence governments and businesses to protect the animals, rivers and reefs close to our hearts and hold decision-makers to account without fear or favour. Everything we do is evidence-based and helps nature and people thrive for generations to come.

We won't give up until Australia's nature is protected and regenerated.

THE FOOD & NATURE CAMPAIGN

Food production has shaped Australia's landscape more than any other industry. We are one of the most biodiverse countries on Earth, yet the only wealthy nation on the global list of deforestation hotspots. Our food system is the leading cause of habitat destruction and a major driver of climate change, clearing carbon-storing forests and pumping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

But many Australian farmers are showing there's another way, running productive, profitable farms while protecting and restoring nature. Scaling up nature-friendly farming across the country is one of our biggest opportunities to recover nature, tackle climate change and secure our food supply for the long term.

ACF's goal is to end deforestation for agriculture and restore nature through the way we grow our food. Our food and nature campaign works towards this across three interconnected levers (corporate supply chains, private finance and public policy), backed by growing public demand.



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THE ROLE

The Food & Agriculture Policy Adviser leads ACF's advocacy to win federal government support for a food system that's good for nature, climate and people.

Working with allies across food, farming and the environment, the adviser develops a shared, evidence-based reform agenda and turns it into a united advocacy push in the lead-up to the next federal election. They forge alliances, drive our parliamentary and departmental strategy, and cultivate champions for reform in Parliament.

KEY COLLABORATIONS

Under the direction of the Head of Political Advocacy, the Food & Agriculture Policy Adviser works closely with ACF's Head of Food & Nature, and colleagues across digital, communications and organising teams, to deliver an integrated campaign to end deforestation and ensure the way we grow our food restores nature and supports a safer climate. Externally the role builds and maintains constructive relationships with politicians and their staff, government departments, industry bodies, policy experts and aligned food, farming and environment allies, bringing them together around a shared agenda for reform.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and implement a parliamentary and departmental strategy to secure Government policy and funding that accelerates nature and climate-friendly food and farming systems and practices.
- Cultivate champions for food system reform in Parliament, and build and maintain constructive relationships with political offices, government departments and other influential stakeholders to advance the agenda.
- Support and inform campaign strategy and tactics that strengthen parliamentary engagement, working with ACF colleagues to develop integrated activities across digital, communications and community organising.
- Identify, develop and evaluate policy solutions with allies and partners, building a shared reform agenda that advances ACF's strategic goal, and commission economic and other analysis as needed to make the case for change.
- Build relationships and alliances with food and farming stakeholders around this shared agenda and coordinate a united advocacy push in the lead-up to the next Federal election.
- Work with industry and allies to drive policy reform for transparent, deforestation-free beef supply chains.
- Produce high-quality submissions, briefs and reports, and represent ACF on food and agriculture policy in the media, with government and at public events.
- Monitor food and agriculture policy developments to inform strategic goals and campaign priorities and respond rapidly to political and media opportunities.
- Contribute to quarterly reporting on progress and impact.



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- Observe the safe working practices and as far as you are able, protect your own and others' health and safety
- Other duties as requested by your manager

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Strong working knowledge of the Australian agricultural sector, its policy priorities and its political and economic interests, along with the food and agriculture policy levers available for reform.
2. Experience building constructive, lasting relationships and alliances among diverse stakeholders to achieve outcomes.
3. Astuteness to political opportunities and threats, with the ability to rapidly respond to opportunities in Parliament or the media to further campaign objectives.
4. Demonstrated experience producing credible and persuasive policy analysis and advice for decisionmakers, media and other target audiences in a time-pressured environment.
5. Established skills in lobbying in political and/or private sector environments.
6. Shows initiative and direction and successfully manages multiple competing demands and deadlines.
7. Genuine interest in nature- and climate-friendly food and agricultural systems, and a collaborative approach to working across the farming, food and environment sectors.
8. Ability to travel regularly to Canberra and other locations as required.

OUR VALUES

Bold - We aim high and act with courage. We're curious, innovative and unafraid to try new things. We learn from failure. We stay committed to big goals and to the scale of change needed.

Fair - We fight for fair outcomes for people and nature. We work to transform the systems driving the climate and extinction crises. We listen to and work alongside First Nations Peoples who have cared for Country since time immemorial.

Evidence based - The truth matters. We use evidence and judgement to guide decisions and fight mis and disinformation.

Stronger together - We work across teams, communities and partners because that's how we have the biggest impact.

Fun - We bring joy, hope and fun that connects people with nature and each other, making people feel part of something bigger. We celebrate wins and nurture the relationships that sustain long-term change.

Diversity is strength - We're inspired by the ecosystems we work to protect diversity makes us strong. We build a movement where people of all walks of life are welcome and belong, and where many perspectives help us solve big challenges.



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