Environmental Lawyer

Job Description
Environmental lawyers draw from existing legislation as well as precedent cases to advise clients on legal situations that can potentially impact geological and biological systems. This includes matters relating to water and air quality, biodiversity, waste and land management, agriculture, alternative energy technology, and sustainability. Environmental lawyers also provide expertise and advocate for the development of regulatory law.

Core Tasks
- Analyze and interpret data obtained from research and case findings
- Analyze and extrapolate from existing data, case laws, and precedents
- Compile evidence and interview clients, witnesses, and persons of interest
- Participate in pre-trial negotiations and discovery sessions
- Use persuasion and carefully constructed logical arguments

Workplace / Environment
- Work hours: Usually Long Hours but it varies by case
- Environment: Office or Court is where most environmental lawyers work
- Universities are where those who pursue academia in this field find themselves
- Travel: Moderate Travel can be expected to meet clients

Education / Prerequisites
Education Level
A Bachelor of Laws (LLB) or Juris Doctor (JD) is needed in order to practice as an environmental lawyer. Master of Law (LLM) or a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) for more senior positions

Licensing
Bar exam and admittance before they can formally provide legal services

Pre-Job Preparation
Interning or job shadowing at a local law firm will prove extremely beneficial to future career pursuits

Experience
Soft skills
- Concise and persuasive written and oral communication
- Organization

Technical skills
- Understand and interpret raw data and scientific literature
- Assess damages in legal proceedings
- Draft correspondence
- Check affidavits, testimonies, and summative reports for accuracy

Salary
Entry – $72,000
Middle – $113,530
Top – $179,000