# Environmental Consulting in WA

- 1. Current Market and Future Trends
- 2. Future proofing your hiring
- 3. Future proofing your career



Ben Oakley – Hunter Executive Search Consultants



# Ben Oakley

- Recruitment Consultant at Hunter Executive Search Consultants
- Specialising in Environment / Water / Engineering / Executive Search
- 13 years experience recruiting in Perth
- Masters Degree in Engineering (M.Eng), Member of the Institution of Engineers Australia (MIEAust), International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) and Recruitment and Consulting Services Association - Accredited Recruitment Professional (MRCSA)



# Market overview

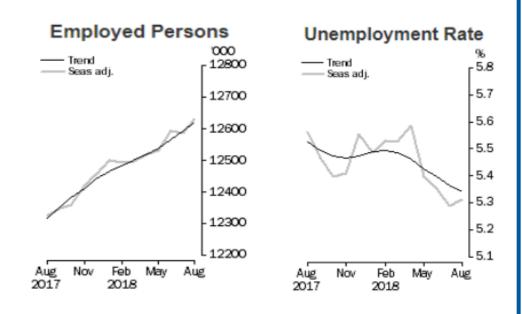
### What is currently happening?

- The employment market is tightening
- Employment rates increasing / Unemployment decreasing

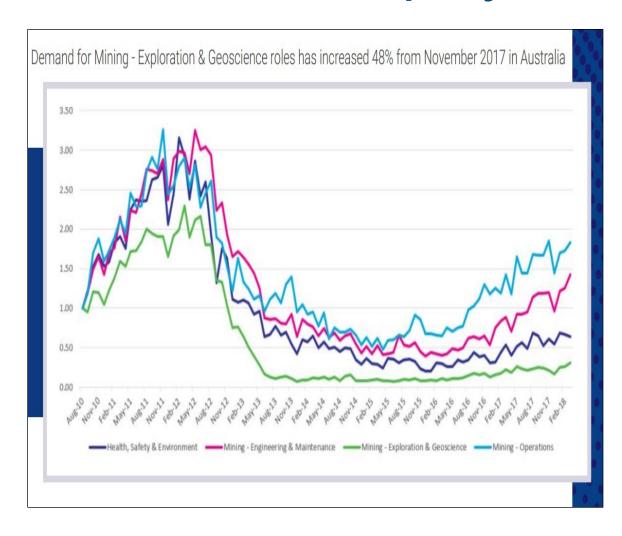
(ABS Stats Aug 2017 – Aug 2018)

#### Key Points:

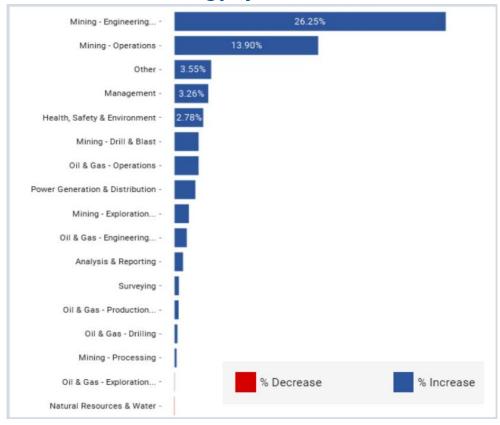
- Employment increased 29,000 to 12,620,700
- Unemployment decreased 2,700 to 711,900
- Unemployment rate decreased 5.3%
- Participation rate remained steady at 65.6%
- Monthly hours worked in all jobs increased 2.5million hours (0.1%) to 1,751.4 million hours



# Resources employment starting to recover



Year on year growth – Mining, resources, Energy jobs



### Job Ads are growing

#### (Environmental, Earth & Geosciences)

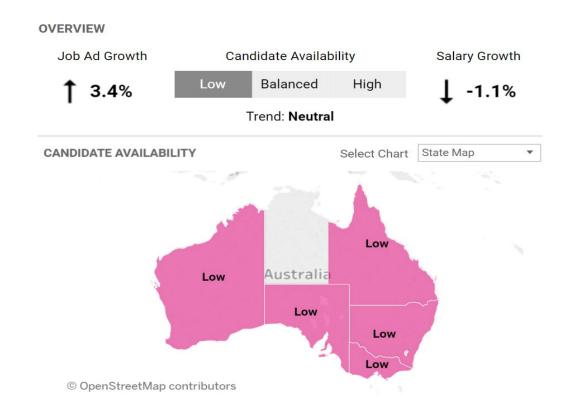


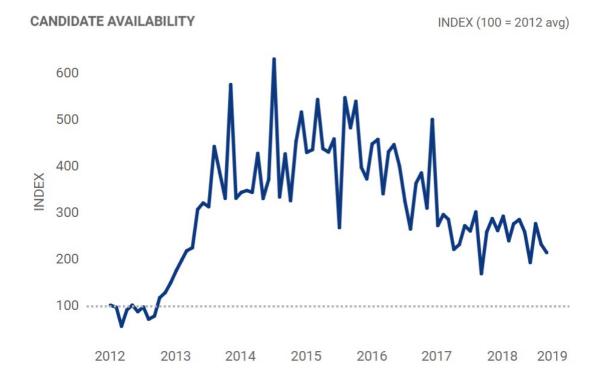
By state - Last 3 months

Australia Wide - Last 6 years

### **Candidate Availability is decreasing**

#### (Environmental, Earth & Geosciences)





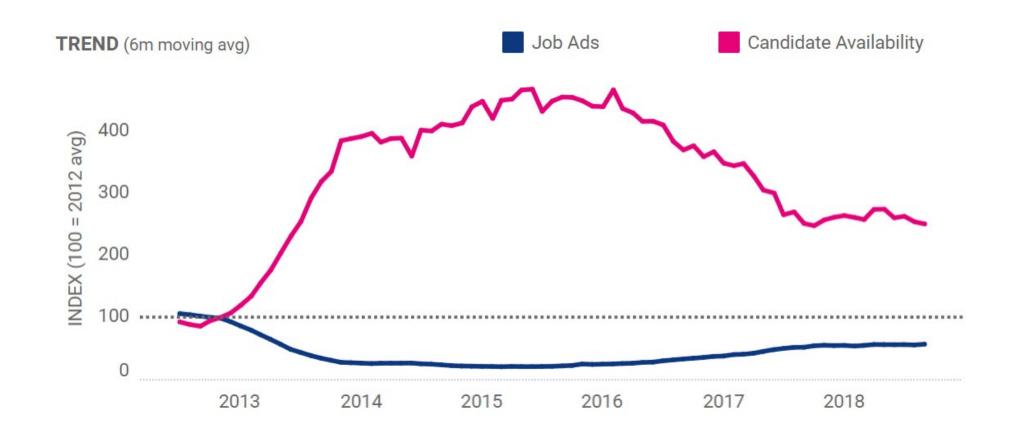
By State - Last 3 months

Australia Wide - Last 6 years



### **Supply and Demand**

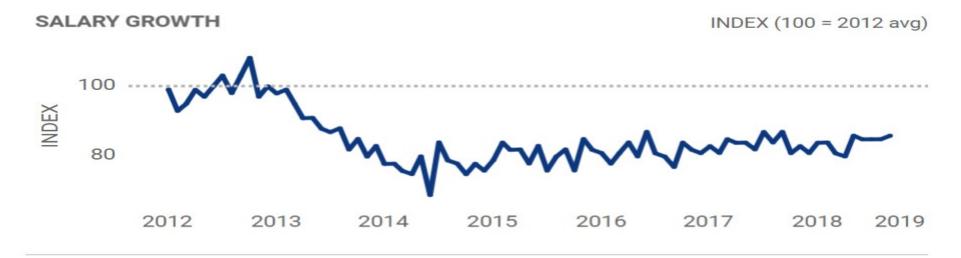
### (Environmental, Earth & Geosciences)



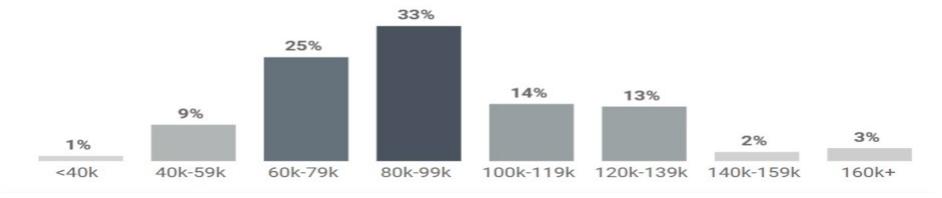
Australia Wide - Last 5 years



#### **Salaries increasing (slightly)** (Environmental, Earth & Geosciences)



#### SALARY DISTRIBUTION (\$) 12 months to September 2018



Australia Wide - Last 6 years



# Market overview

### What does this mean for 2019?

- In 2019 and onwards it will be harder to both find and retain staff
- Salaries are increasing slowly and will continue to increase over the coming years
- Businesses need to have a plan in place to deal with an impending skills shortage



### 1. Look after your current staff

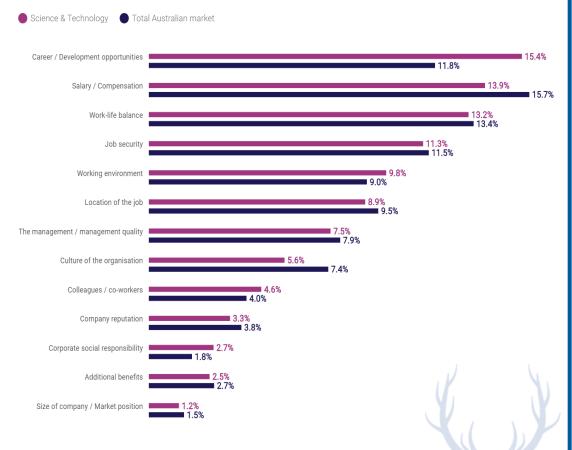
- Give your staff a clear career path
- Pay appropriately / review salaries
- Have some fun



#### Did you know?

Science & technology candidates are significantly more likely than those in the total group to view company reputation and corporate social responsibility as a 'must have' when it comes to finding their next job. An employer that values and protects the environment is also a key motivator.

### **Current drivers / motivators**



### 2. Have a strategy / plan in advance

- Plan for skills shortages they are coming!
- Don't expect to be able to hire successfully through advertising alone
- Have an employee referral program
- Invest in Juniors / Graduates
- Always be recruiting even if you are not hiring
- Also plan for a recession it will come at some point!



### 3. Work in partnership with a good recruiter

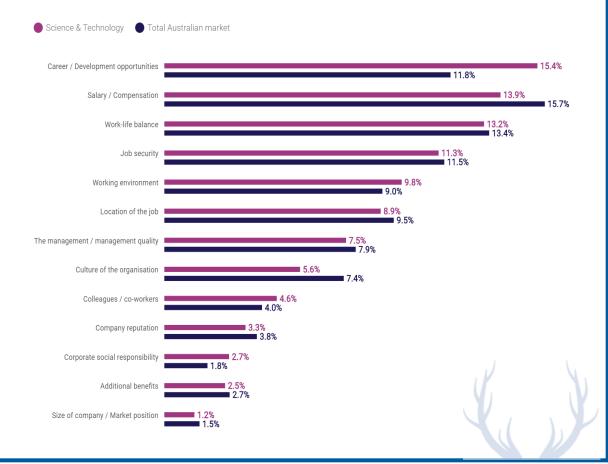
- Why use a recruiter?
- Work with a specialist
- Build a long term relationship
- Ask for added value salary advice / market advice etc



# 4. Offer something your competitors don't

- Have a point of difference / USP
- If the job / salary etc are the same, why are people going to work for you?
- You will have to sell your company to candidates

### **Current drivers / motivators**



### 1. Build a brand and a professional network

- a) Be on LinkedIn why?
- b) Be aware of other social media (Facebook etc) / your internet fingerprint
- c) Network and build real-life relationships
- d) Keep in touch

"Job Boards don't find people jobs......People find people jobs"



### 2. Have 'a specialty' but be diverse

- Don't get pigeon holed very specialised skills leave you vulnerable
- Learn complimentary skills be adaptable

#### **Current Services in High Demand**

- 1. Contaminated Land
- 2. Hydrology / Water Engineering
- 3. Terrestrial Ecology
- 4. Occupational Hygiene
- 5. Air quality
- 6. Noise modelling

#### **Potential for Future Demand**

- 1. Contaminated Land
- 2. Environmental Impact Assessments / Approvals
- 3. Terrestrial Flora / Fauna
- 4. Mine Closure Planning
- 5. Hydrology / Water Engineering
- 6. Hydrogeology
- 7. Occupational Hygiene
- 8. Air Quality
- 9. Noise



### 3. Be adaptable and change

- Change jobs / companies Work on different projects / different clients / different industries / meet new people / learn new skills / gain new experiences
- Don't get stale consider a move Every 4 6 years (unless you are happy!)
- Keep up to date with new technology
- (Industry and Public Sector give you different experiences but if your long term goal is consulting it can be a barrier coming back)



### 4. Have a career plan / goal and work towards it

- Where do you want to be in 1 year / 3 years / 5 years / 10 years?
- Aim high, but be realistic
- Don't be in the same place or plodding along from year to year
- Study / take courses / join organisations ECA / Engineers Australia / ACLA etc
- Juniors / graduates Find a mentor / Soak up knowledge / Be the teachers pet
- Intermediates be looking for your chance to take the next step
- Seniors / principals Become B.D experts / record your success project sizes / clients / values

# Thank you

Ben Oakley

ben@hunterexecutive.com.au

0417 178 220

www.linkedin.com/in/benjaminoakley





# **Hunter Executive:**

Engineering | Earth & Environment | Mining & Resources | Building & Construction | | Manufacturing & Production | Infrastructure | Renewable Energy | Government & Defence |

- Permanent Recruitment
- Contract / Temporary recruitment
- Retained Executive search
- Third Party Payroll
- Outplacement Support

**Perth**: 98 Terrace Road, East Perth, WA, 6004 / **P**: (08) 9278 2511

**Sydney**: 19 Martin Place, Sydney, NSW, 2000 / **P**: (02) 9238 1928

Melbourne: 1 Keys St, Frankston, VIC 3199 / P: (03) 9581 2640

E: careers@hunterexecutive.com.au / W: www.hunterexecutive.com.au