



# Senior Project Manager

**MIKE BOVEN**  
JACOBS

**It's not what you take with you when you leave, it's what you leave behind.**

## **What does a typical day look like in this role?**

One day could be spent on calls in an office setting all day. Next day troubleshooting issues in the field. Another day/week traveling cross country to assist projects having difficulties or in need of senior leadership.

## **What are the most challenging aspects of this career?**

Ever changing regulatory issues. For instance, lately PFAS and micro plastic have emerged as new concerns. This is challenging to finding treatment solutions and it highly impacts communities economically because of the expense to treat these contaminants.

## **What are the most rewarding aspects of this career?**

Participating in an industry that protects the environment, and people's lives on a daily basis.

Mentoring to the younger generation so that knowledge and understanding of this industry can continue to advance long after the old into the future.

## **Educational Requirements**

### **What level of education is typically required?**

Undergraduate with 15+ years of experience

### **Are there specific fields of study that are most relevant?**

Project Management, Business, Environmental Sciences

### **What soft skills are important?**

People skills, regulatory compliance knowledge, strong communications, flexibility, strategic thinking

### **What are the usual work hours and conditions?**

Highly flexible hours, typical day 7 AM – 5 PM. However, a travel day may start at the airport around 6:30 AM EST and end up leaving project at 5 PM PST

### **What are some highlights of your career path?**

Owned a Business. Started as summer help at wastewater plant, became Operator, Operations Specialist, Assistant Superintendent, Project Manager, Area Manager, Director of Operations, Regional Vice President, Senior Project Manager – Worked at every level of operations and maintenance in water and wastewater facilities