

Conservation Coordinator

Position Summary

The Conservation Coordinator is responsible for assisting Managers, the Director, and Board of Supervisors in delivering conservation services to landowners in the Palouse Conservation District. This includes planning, organizing, applying, and monitoring conservation practices; communicating with state, and local agencies and entities to develop project ideas; organizing and participating in public events, as well as participating in the development and execution of grants. This position serves as an integral member of a team of conservation professionals working both in the field and office. The successful candidate will become a member of the District's team of natural resource conservation professionals working together to enhance and protect natural resources within the District. Specifically, the coordination of increased conservation tillage and direct seed cropping systems, nutrient management, precision agriculture enrollment, and soil health management systems utilizing cover crops.

Essential to this position is: 1) being familiar with local and regional conservation agriculture issues, resource concerns, and conservation needs, 2) maintaining relationships and partnerships with land managers, the general public, agencies, and other partners, 3) identifying resource conservation needs and opportunities, 4) writing grant proposals to fund those opportunities, 5) collaborating with Resource Conservation Program staff and Finance & Admin Program staff to administer District grants, 6) coordinating Resource Conservation Program staff to deliver program services, and 7) implementing programs, events and activities.

The Conservation Coordinator will be working with federal farm programs through the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and understanding the NRCS practices codes and certifications is needed. Getting federal clearance will be a requirement of the successful applicant.

Position Details

FTE: Full Time (40 hours/week)
Compensation: \$57,118.00 - \$74,250.00 DOE
Position Type: Regular-Benefit Eligible

All positions at Palouse CD are grant-funded. The Conservation Coordinator is currently funded through June 30, 2024. The position will continue if additional grant funding and/or financial support is obtained, something Palouse CD anticipates occurring.

Required Qualifications

Bachelor's degree (BS/BA;) in Agriculture, Natural Resources, Environmental Science, or 2 years in a related field.

Knowledge of dryland agriculture, with an emphasis on the adoption of direct seed cropping systems, nutrient management, and precision agriculture, enrollment into direct seed and related conservation agriculture programs.

Knowledge of designing, implementing, managing, and analyzing outcomes for efficient and effective dryland resource conservation programs.

Familiar with current conservation issues facing dryland farmers, sustainable agriculture, and livestock owners in the region and have experience implementing conservation Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Willing and physically able to assist with field data collection and restoration of fields located within the District. Must be physically fit, able to hike for extended periods, carry equipment (up to 50 lbs.) over rough terrain, and at times in inclement weather conditions.

Ability to build respectful and productive relationships with internal colleagues and external stakeholders.

Demonstrated ability to manage the technical aspects of budget development, including preparation, justification, and tracking of budgets.

Excellent communication skills in working with private land managers and users in a non-regulatory environment.

Valid, unrestricted driver's license.

Preferred Qualifications

Master's Degree in Agriculture, Public Administration, Natural Resources, Environmental Sciences or Studies, or a related field.

Strong understanding of local and regional watersheds, current land use practices, and resource management issues and challenges facing dryland agriculture.

Advanced knowledge of grants management and public sector budgeting.

Working knowledge of local, state, and federal conservation programs through Farm Service Agency or Natural Resources Conservation Services currently available to landowners such as EQIP, CRP, CREP, etc. and related conservation Best Management Practices (BMP's).

NRCS certified planner, or ability to become certified.

Proficient in ARC GIS.

Strong writing skills and grant writing experience.

Experience with Smartsheet work collaboration software.

Professional knowledge of policies and practices of Conservation Districts and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Application Instructions

To apply, please click the link [here](#).

Please be prepared to submit a letter of interest, a resume and three (3) professional references by October 23, 2023. Applications received after this date will be reviewed on a rolling basis and should apply if the announcement is still posted. Applications that do not include both a letter of interest and resume will not be considered. Palouse Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer.

Position Description

To view a full position description, please click the link [here](#).