



Job Opportunity Sotoyome Resource Conservation District

Established in 1945, the Sotoyome Resource Conservation District (RCD) has been a leader in promoting the stewardship of natural resources in central and Northern Sonoma County. Since its establishment, the RCD has been providing educational, technical, and funding support to landowners in the following watersheds: Mark West, Dry Creek, Mill, Palmer, Felta, Austin, Maacama, Big Sulphur, Alexander Valley, Laguna de Santa Rosa, Sheephouse, Jenner and Russian Gulches, and other associated tributaries to the Russian River in addition to the entire Gualala River Watershed. For more information visit: www.sotoyomercd.org.

The Riparian Vegetation Specialist position designs and coordinates the implementation of voluntary projects on private property to improve water quality and restore riparian habitat. The Riparian Vegetation Specialist is involved in all aspects of conservation projects related to riparian enhancement and invasive species removal projects, including initiating contact with cooperators, developing plans, facilitating permits, and supervising contractors in construction/installation. This position works on a team developing, promoting, and implementing conservation practices in the Russian and Gualala River Watersheds. Other responsibilities may include writing grant proposals and developing projects and reports, presenting at educational and training events and working collaboratively with landowners, partner organizations and agencies to provide input on technical documents and reports.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Riparian Vegetation Specialist works under the supervision of the Executive Director. Scheduling of hours is flexible, with the amount of hours per week depending on work load.

Work duties will include:

- Manages native plant revegetation and invasive plant removal projects from start to finish, including project identification, landowner coordination, project design, permit applications (where needed), and management of contractors and/or volunteers for project implementation.

- Works with other staff to incorporate revegetation and invasive plant removal elements into larger projects and programs.
- Assists in production of outreach materials for district programs.
- Coordinates RCD educational and outreach activities including watershed meetings and other outreach events.
- Writes grants and develops fee for service contracts.
- Performs additional administrative duties associated with the above projects and programs.

Knowledge, Skills & Experience:

- Desire to embrace and achieve the mission of the RCD; to provide technical assistance and education to growers, landowners and residents, helping them to voluntarily conserve natural resources.
- Working knowledge of and interest in production agriculture and natural resource conservation principles and science, specifically riparian revegetation planning and invasive species removal projects, and native plant communities.
- Experience engaging and collaborating with diverse groups and stakeholders, including landowners, growers, industry representatives, researchers, nonprofits, public agencies and citizens. Experience working with volunteers a plus.
- Ability to exercise professional judgment in the planning, coordination and implementation of conservation projects and take initiative in fulfilling programmatic and grant related obligations.
- Proven ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Highly motivated and self-directing with the ability to prioritize and coordinate workload.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, organizational skills and multitasking ability.
- Experience working under, writing and/or managing grants.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Three years professional experience, including three years in the capacity of designing and implementing riparian restoration and/or invasive species removal projects.
- Bachelor's degree in the natural sciences including: ecology, biology, botany, plant science, environmental science, with an emphasis on riparian ecology and processes.
- Excellent verbal and written skills.
- Ability to prioritize and complete tasks under deadline with minimal supervision.

- A working knowledge of issues related to riparian watershed restoration and water quality in Northern California, working knowledge of the Russian River Watershed a plus.
- Proficiency with word processing, spreadsheet and presentation software.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This is a one year grant funded position with the possibility for extension, 30-40 hours a week

Salary: Hourly, DOE

Benefits: vacation, sick leave, medical and/or flexible spending account, or retirement benefits are available for this position after 3 month trial period, 12 paid holidays given.

Work location: 2150 West College Avenue, Santa Rosa, and project sites throughout the northern two thirds of Sonoma County.

Start Date: Immediately

Application Procedure: Please e-mail a letter of interest, resume and/or list of

qualifications along with a list of three references to the Sotoyome RCD Executive

Director at: kheckert@sotoyomercd.org. No phone calls please.

Final date for filing: Open until filled