

Sotoyome Resource Conservation District
Position Title: Physical Scientist

Organization Background:

Established in 1945, the Sotoyome 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, Austin, Maacama, Big Sulphur, Alexander Valley, Laguna de Santa Rosa, Sheephouse, Jenner and Russian Gulches, and other associated tributaries to the Russian River and the entire Gualala River Watershed.

The Sotoyome RCD Physical Scientist position coordinates resource conservation activities and assists in the implementation of voluntary projects on private property to improve water quality and restore habitat. The Physical Scientist is involved in all aspects of conservation projects, including initiating contact with cooperators, identifying conservation needs, 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 reports, presenting at educational and training events and working collaboratively with partner organizations and agencies to provide input on technical documents and reports.

Knowledge, Skills & Experience:

- Desire to embrace, understand, and achieve the mission of the RCD
- Background in Hydrology, Geology, and/or Geomorphology (or similar physical science discipline)
- Proficient in Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- Working knowledge of and interest in production agriculture and natural resource conservation principles and science, specifically soil erosion processes and stream dynamics and habitat restoration techniques.
- Ability to collect (field work), analyze and summarize monitoring data
- Experience engaging and collaborating with diverse groups and stakeholders, including landowners, growers, industry representatives, researchers, nonprofits, public agencies and citizens.
- Ability to exercise professional judgment in the planning, coordination and implementation of conservation projects and take initiative in fulfilling programmatic and grant related obligations.
- Awareness of and ability to facilitate/secure individual permits and coordinate multiple permits required to implement restoration projects.
- 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.
- Self driven and positive attitude a must.

Desired Qualifications:

- Three years professional experience, including two years in the capacity of managing conservation and restoration projects.
- Bachelor's degree in the natural sciences or engineering including: ecology, biology, agronomy, planning, environmental science, civil, agricultural or environmental engineering, hydrology, geology, and soil science.
- A working knowledge of issues related to watershed restoration and water quality in Northern California, especially the Russian River Watershed.
- Proficiency with word processing, spreadsheet and presentation software.

Position Information: The Physical Scientist position is full -time based on a flexible Monday through Friday daytime schedule (40 hours/week). Job related travel is required and some weekend and overnight travel may be necessary. Approved travel expenses incurred while conducting official RCD business will be paid on a reimbursable basis at the current federal rate. A valid California driver's license and proof of insurance is required.

Compensation: Pay commensurate on qualifications and experience. The Sotoyome RCD provides the following benefits: sick time, two week of vacation, dental and health insurance, retirement, flexible spending account, and 12 paid holidays.

Application Procedure: Please e-mail a letter of interest, resume and/or list of qualifications along with a list of three references to the SRCD Executive Director at: kcheckert@sotoyomercd.org. No phone calls please.

FINAL DATE FOR FILING: February 19th, 2010