



Asotin County

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Position Description

Title: Monitoring Specialist

Introduction:

The duties of this position are to implement natural resource monitoring in Asotin County. Monitoring includes the collection, analysis, reporting, and presentation of natural resource and Best Management Practice (BMP) data. This position's primary responsibilities will be monitoring and reporting for the Voluntary Stewardship Program and district implemented projects. Funding for this position is subject to availability and successful attainment of grant money.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities:

- Conduct monitoring and reporting for the Voluntary Stewardship Program
- Coordinate and implement monitoring activities for district implemented projects.
- Work with landowners to design studies that are producer-led and driven by local needs.
- Coordinate with landowners on field management activities including manure and fertilizer application as it relates to soil health and plant production.
- Maintain field stations including automated water sampler (Tidbit sensors)
- Provide support for landowners to install and maintain District owned weather station equipment.
- Collect water samples and flow data from water quality monitoring locations.
- Work cooperatively with landowners and coordinating agencies to effectively implement grant program requirements.
- Promote the cost-share program and assist landowners with cost-share applications.
- Work with NRCS, partners and landowners to develop quality resource plans.
- Provide periodic project inspection during the life of the projects as directed by District Coordinators
- Participate in outreach activities such as workshops and tours.
- Attend workshops, training sessions and meetings within and outside of the district as directed by the District Coordinators. Occasional overnight travel may be involved.

- Prepare or assist with the preparation of project reporting.
- Assist with identifying grant opportunities and writing grant applications as assigned.
- Occasionally operate equipment as required for fieldwork according to safety requirements and district policy.
- Perform other duties as assigned by District Coordinators & District Board of Supervisors.

Required Knowledge & Skills:

- Working knowledge of monitoring techniques and principles including natural resource and field monitoring.
- Knowledge of and experience with natural resources field methods and monitoring techniques.
- Must be able to effectively communicate verbally and in writing with a diversity of cooperators, co-workers, and others.
- Must be self-motivated, able to work independently and in groups, work efficiently and honestly.
- Must have demonstrable experience working positively and successfully with individuals one-on-one and in group settings.
- Ability and desire to motivate individuals to adopt and implement resource management practices on their property. This may include educational speaking in front of public groups, organizations, or clubs, as well as one on one interaction
- Organizational, report and informational writing, and research skills are required.
- Ability to coordinate multiple projects and timelines with flexible scheduling
- Computer literacy (word processing, spreadsheets, and database management) is required at an intermediate level or higher
- Ability to organize and plan own schedule of activities related to work goals
- Ability to maintain accurate records regarding time-keeping and authorized expenses
- Ability to work closely, cooperatively, and in a non-confrontational manner with others in a public office environment
- Must be able to physically perform the tasks of the job in the field by traversing uneven ground in varied weather conditions and occasionally carrying up to 50 pounds of equipment and/or materials
- Ability to operate ATV (if necessary) in a safe and prudent manner and to attend and successfully complete ATV Rider Course.
- Use current technology to conduct all conservation work activities.
- Must have, or be able to obtain, and maintain a valid driver's License.

Preferred Knowledge & Skills:

- Agriculture background and experience.
- A four-year degree with preferred course work in one or more of the following areas: agricultural sciences, soils, water quality, biology, general sciences, environmental sciences, fish and wildlife management, natural resource management, engineering, or a related discipline.
- Professional or applied education experience conducting monitoring activities.
- Professional or applied education experience synthesizing and presenting scientific data.
- Knowledge of a broad range of soil and water conservation principles, techniques, methods, and practices to apply and install conservation systems, which involve complex and diverse land uses.
- Knowledge and understanding of water quality standards and criteria for watershed health, riparian restoration, and ecosystem function.
- Knowledge and understanding of livestock management, grazing practices, and riparian management.
- Knowledge and understanding of agricultural and cropping systems
- Knowledge and understanding of riparian function and restoration processes to improve water quality and aquatic habitat.
- Knowledge of plant communities and ecology.
- Knowledge and experience using Global Positioning System (GPS) devices to collect point, line, and area information and downloading data to a computer system for further analysis.
- Ability to import data, analyze data sets, and develop maps and other graphical depictions of conservation values and plans using mapping software such as ArcGIS.
- Knowledge and skill in surveying and identifying soils and/or hydrologic processes
- Ability to effectively use a variety of tools to collect, disseminate, and record natural resource data.
- Experience conducting biological monitoring and data collection, in sometimes challenging conditions.

This position's compensation is anticipated to start at \$20.00 per hour DOQ/DOE. (Monitoring Specialist Wage Scale \$17.99 to \$31.07) Benefits for this position include 8 hours of paid sick leave per month, 8 hours of paid vacation leave per month, 11 paid holidays per year plus 1 floating holiday, medical insurance, vision insurance, dental insurance, and optional DCP retirement plan participation. Terms of compensation and benefits are set by the position appointment letter and may be amended at any time by the Board of Supervisors.

This is a full-time, non-exempt position. Regular work schedule is Monday – Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm with a 30-minute unpaid lunch. Additional evening and weekend work is required occasionally and may require overnight travel.