



Job Opening Announcement

CONTRACTED PRIVATE FORESTLANDS PROGRAM ASSOCIATE

LOCATION: Portland, OR

REPORTS TO: Forest Program Director

POSITION POSTED: March 31, 2021

ABOUT SUSTAINABLE NORTHWEST

Sustainable Northwest brings entrepreneurial solutions to natural resources challenges to keep lands healthy and provide economic and community benefits. We believe a healthy economy, environment, and community are indivisible, and that all are strengthened by wise partnerships, policies, and investments.

Founded in 1994, our work focuses on forests, farms, and ranches; clean energy; water; and green markets throughout the Greater Northwest. Through this broad spectrum of work, we help to ensure both rural communities and urban centers have healthy landscapes, resilient economies, and engaged communities. We work on the ground in communities, collaborating to create long-term benefits.

POSITION SUMMARY

The Private Forestlands Program Associate is a one-year project-limited contract with the potential to become a full-time permanent position at Sustainable Northwest pending additional project funding. Location is flexible, our main office is in Portland, OR. This position will have a focus in the western portion of the Oregon Cascades and will require travel in the region.

The Private Forestlands Program Associate is responsible for coordinating and supporting Sustainable Northwest's initiatives related to private forest management, especially wildfire resilience, technical assistance, communications and outreach, and networking across Oregon. The Associate collaborates with other Sustainable Northwest staff and programs on projects related to forestry. This position is overseen by the Forest Program Director and will work closely with the Wildfire Program Manager along with the Forest Program team.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Private Forestlands Program Associate will work independently and with the forest team to advance Sustainable Northwest's vision for forest resilience and rural economic development across Oregon and Washington.

PRIMARY PROGRAMMATIC DUTIES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Support strategic state and regional networks to help achieve the goal of scaling forest innovation across Oregon, with an emphasis on challenges related to wildfire mitigation, adaptation, and recovery.



- Identify new funding opportunities to support and expand initiatives and work with the Forest Program team to apply for grants and contracts.
- Develop relationships with and provide assistance to organizations working on cross-boundary forest management issues including state and federal agencies, Indian Tribes' Natural Resource Departments, universities, nonindustrial and industrial landowners, and organizations providing technical assistance.
- Support initiatives to create opportunities for peer-learning, networking, and engagement for community partners.
- Conduct shuttle diplomacy with diverse stakeholders at multiple scales to increase common ground agreement.
- Develop and maintain strong, trusting, and effective relationships with a broad diversity of SNW partners, including conservation organizations, timber industry, logging and forestry contractors, Indian Tribes Natural Resources Departments, state and federal agencies, and elected officials.
- Actively engage in organizational and program-specific work to advance equitable outcomes and emphasize inclusive, diverse, partnerships.
- Represent Sustainable Northwest in public and private settings, including conferences, partnerships, and meetings with foundation staff, private donors, and government decision-makers.
- Work with the Forest Program Director and Forest Program team on individual and program work plans, and associated Forest Program strategic planning documents.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's Degree in forest or natural resources management, collaborative governance, or related field.
- Experience working with diverse stakeholders in rural areas and contexts to develop shared vision and purpose in forestland management and restoration.
- Experienced in meeting coordination and follow up, project management, and balancing multiple lanes of communication.
- Training or experience in facilitation and conflict resolution.
- Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Ability to work independently and proactively and manage difficult work situations while also demonstrating commitment to working in a team environment, internally and externally.
- Strong written and oral communication skills; position requires significant engagement with external stakeholders and partners.
- Grant writing and reporting experience.
- Willing to be flexible and adaptive when needed.
- Highly organized and intellectually curious.
- Solutions oriented; SNW works with diverse groups and individuals to balance multiple outcomes.
- A good sense of humor.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS



- Understanding of the ecological, social, cultural, and institutional landscape of forest ecology and management in Oregon.
- Experience working with coalitions of private nonprofit organizations and government agencies. Understanding of watershed councils, land trusts, and/or community-based organizations.
- Knowledge of ecological forest restoration, forest management practices, Forest Service and other state and federal agencies' land policies and regulations, science-based decision making, program and project management, and collaborative processes.
- Knowledge of PNW Indian Tribes (federally and non-federally recognized), treaty rights, reserved rights, government-to-government relationships, and trust responsibilities.

BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION

Contract is negotiable with hourly rate commensurate with experience and technical difficulty of deliverables. If converted to a full-time permanent position, salary would start at \$50,000 per year with room for negotiation based on experience.

PLEASE NOTE

The skills and experience listed above are what we believe is necessary to succeed in this position. That being said, we encourage all interested applicants to apply and underscore applicable skills unique to you in your cover letter.

Sustainable Northwest is an equal opportunity employer. We encourage applications from candidates with diverse backgrounds and individuals from historically underrepresented groups, whose experience will strengthen our organization and innovations. We do not discriminate on the basis of an applicant or employee's race or ethnicity, national origin; gender, gender identity or sexual orientation; age, ability, or other legally protected status. We offer reimbursement for travel expenses incurred during the final in-person interview (post-COVID).

TO APPLY

Send an email with 'Private Forestlands Program Associate' in the subject line. Email cover letter, resume, and one writing sample to Hannah Meganck at hmeganck@sustainablenorthwest.org. Incomplete submissions will not be considered. No phone calls or email inquiries, please. Position will remain open until filled. We will begin reviewing applications on April 12. Interview questions will be provided 24 hours in advance. References will be requested of finalist candidates.