



SLOUGHHOUSE

Resource Conservation District

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Position Description:

Water Efficiency Program Coordinator

Do you want to be part of an enthusiastic team working with the agricultural community in Sacramento County to help growers and help reach sustainability goals? Come work with us! We are looking for a natural resource or agricultural professional to develop and run a 3-year, Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) and Water Efficiency program that will provide technical assistance on irrigation efficiency and other on-farm conservation issues. Training and mentorship will be provided as part of this program.

About Us

Located in Sacramento County, the Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SRCD) is a special district of the State of California and a local Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The RCD works closely with a variety of local and regional partners to become better stewards of our natural resources through education, outreach, and implementing conservation projects to advance the long-term sustainability of working landscapes, rural life, and our unique environment. Learn more about us on our website at SloughhouseRCD.org.

About the Position

Pursuant to the SRCD Board of Directors policy and at the direction of the District Manager, the Water Efficiency Program Coordinator will oversee and implement all activities of the Mobile Irrigation Lab, including managing and performing all aspects of field activities both directly and in coordination with other RCD staff, coordinating activities with growers, communicating with grant managers and managing the project budget and scope of work, purchasing materials and supplies, collecting data, writing reports and working with administrative staff to develop invoices, and contributing to other general SRCD work and assisting other staff as needed. The Project Coordinator will assist growers by improving irrigation practices, developing conservation plans, provide education on how to maintain efficient irrigation systems, provide semi-annual groundwater elevation monitoring of groundwater wells, collecting water samples, introduce growers to new technologies and best management practices relating to water efficiency, and encourage growers to become more active in location education and outreach events.

Overview of job duties includes responsibilities to:

- Schedule and coordinate with growers for meeting locations, dates, and times.
- Perform irrigation evaluations, typically 1 to 2 per day between the months of April through September. Evaluations include determining system pressure, system uniformity, flow-rates, and application rates. Irrigation System Evaluation training program at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo will be provided.

- Attend additional trainings and certifications as needed. Certifications helpful for this position include Irrigation Association's Agriculture Irrigation Auditor and the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Technical Service Provider (TSP) and Conservation Planner.
- Develop a comprehensive irrigation evaluation report for each grower using data collected in the field and field notes with the goal of providing changes to irrigation scheduling that lead to improved irrigation efficiency and water conservation.
- Provide other on-farm technical assistance as needed, including pump efficiency testing, best management practices for water efficiency, soil health, carbon farming, and other on-farm conservation topics.
- Perform networking and outreach activities through one-on-one grower interactions and through attendance and participation in workshops, seminars, and agricultural events.
- Develop presentations and/or workshops to promote the water efficiency program and educate on topics that focus on irrigation efficiencies, modern technologies, and related topics.
- Coordinate and collaborate with a broad array of partner organizations, agency staff, and landowners.
- Manage project budget and grant deliverables, communicate with California Department of Food and Agriculture grant managers as required, purchase materials and supplies, and work with SRCD administrative staff to develop invoices, and quarterly and annual reports to grantors.
- Exercise independent judgment and discretion in the overall management and issue resolution on projects.

Qualifications:

Any combination of experience and education which provides the required knowledge and skills is acceptable:

- Bachelor's Degree or higher in Natural Resources Planning, Plant or Soil Sciences, Ecology, Agriculture, Biology, Environmental Science or a related field of study or five (5) years field and management experience in agriculture, irrigation technology, agricultural or natural resource technical assistance or crop and soil sciences.
- Community-oriented individual that conducts themselves in a professional manner and is passionate about working cooperatively with people with different perspectives, priorities, and temperaments.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience working in the Sacramento region.
- Fluent in Spanish, Hmong, or another language widely spoken in Sacramento County.
- Possession of a Technical Service Provider certification through the Natural Resources Conservation Service or a willingness to obtain one.

Physical Requirements:

- Ability to work in the field in a variety of outdoor and sometimes inclement weather conditions and walk on uneven terrain including disked fields and ditch hopping. Considerable physical activity is involved including walking up to two miles, bending, stooping, squatting, twisting, reaching and working on irregular surfaces, lifting of up to 25 pounds and occasional lifting of up to 50 pounds.
- Ability to sit for long periods of time; to climb stairs; work inside buildings and in confined spaces; to either work alone or closely with others.

License:

- Required to possess and maintain a valid California driver's license, Class C or higher, to carry out job related duties.

Compensation:

- Salary Range: \$60,000-75,000
- Benefits include full coverage of health insurance and a deferred compensation plan with employer match.

Anticipated Start Date:

- November 2023

To Apply:

- Please email a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to Austin Miller at info@SloughhouseRCD.org. Deadline to apply is Friday, October 13, 2023. Applicants may later be asked to submit a driving record. The position is open until filled. If you would like additional information, please contact the email address above.
- The Resource Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer. Candidates reflecting the social diversity of California are strongly encouraged to apply.