

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Range Conservationist in Malta, Montana

Application Deadline: February 15, 2021 by 5 pm MST
Anticipated Start Date: May 2021

Overview: Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) is hiring for one (1) full-time, term position with benefits to serve in Malta, Montana. These positions are part of a collaborative effort among MACD, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and local partners to further the delivery of rangeland conservation. This position will maintain and/or expand technical assistance capacity in key rangeland focal areas to strengthen working rangelands management. Employees will work with private landowners in Montana to increase the sustainability and economic viability of ranches while simultaneously improving the habitat for sage grouse and other rangeland dependent wildlife. The incumbent will be an employee of MACD with daily instruction and leadership provided by the local NRCS District Conservationist. For more information about these positions and MACD, visit: <https://macdnet.org/>

Duties:

- Provide technical assistance (range conservation and biology focus) and guidance to landowners, government agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs) and others. Training will be provided by NRCS and partners.
- Coordinate the implementation and application of range biological sciences within the conservation programs in cooperation with the local NRCS District Conservationist, BLM, and others.
- Provide monitoring, producer follow up, and technical assistance to producers implementing prescribed grazing plans on lands benefiting sage grouse and other grassland birds.
- Communicate program requirements, complete site visits to determine eligibility, and develop contracts/plans for applicants enrolling in USDA conservation programs or other state and local rangeland conservation programs for the protection, restoration and enhancement of rangelands.
- Coordinate and participate in field work activities for rangeland conservation project implementation.
- Provide technical assistance for soil health benefiting habitat for grassland species.
- Perform other related duties as assigned, including public education and outreach.

Required Knowledge Skills and Abilities:

- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively with landowners and partner agencies.
- Ability to work independently with little supervision and with diverse clientele.
- Experience with range inventory procedures.
- Knowledge of range science and wildlife ecology, including the ability to develop prescribed grazing plans that include range management objectives.
- Able to obtain USDA Security Clearance and NRCS Conservation Planning certification.
- Excellent verbal/written communication and organizational skills.
- Valid driver's license.
- A general qualification guideline for this position is a Bachelor of Science Degree in Rangeland Science or Wildlife Biology/Management from an accredited university with an emphasis on developing prescribed grazing systems and course work and/or experience on integrating wildlife management principles into range management systems.
- Knowledge of computer skills is required, and applicant should be familiar with Word and Excel.
- Ability to use ArcMap would be beneficial.
- Physical ability to; stand and walk for extended periods of time over rough terrain; lift and move material weighing up to 50 pounds; work in all types of weather conditions.

Training and Experience Guideline: Any combination of training and/or experience that will enable the applicant to possess the required knowledge, skills and abilities.

Salary: \$37,000 – 42,000 per year based on experience + Health and Retirement Benefits.

To Apply: Send a resume, three references with contact information, and responses to the following:

1. Describe your experience working with landowners.
2. What is your philosophy on working lands conservation?
3. How do you self-motivate your work activities when working alone?
4. What do you see as the biggest issues facing natural resources, and particularly rangelands, in Montana? What role do you see this position having with these issues?
5. Please describe other skill sets you have that you think would be valuable to this position.

Email: Send application materials to MACD at: hiring@macdnet.org

MACD is an equal opportunity employer