



MONTANA PROJECT MANAGER

FULL-TIME

Farmers Conservation Alliance is a 501(c)(3) organization that operates at the intersection of agricultural, water, and energy. The Montana-based Montana Project Manager will work with FCA staff and contractors to help accelerate irrigation modernization efforts on behalf of irrigation districts, ditch companies, and agricultural producers across Montana. An ideal candidate would enjoy and excel at building relationships with a broad range of community members, and they would be equally comfortable talking with a ditch company representative and meeting with an elected official. They would also be passionate about developing solutions that benefit both agriculture and the environment.

WHEN YOU WORK WITH US, HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL FIND

Our staff of over 30 irrigation advisors, strategy consultants, technical professionals, and public policy experts believe that everyone can win – farmers, rivers, and communities. We formed 15 years ago to successfully bring an innovative fish screen technology to market. This farmer-developed technology, now known as the Farmers Screen, helps to keep fish and debris in rivers and out of water supplies.

Since that time, our work has expanded to include the Irrigation Modernization Program—an innovative program to help farmers and ranchers modernize all aspects of their water delivery systems. Staff work with water users, agencies, and organizations to design, finance, and implement large-scale solutions and technologies that improve water delivery systems, reduce operation and maintenance costs, and generate fish-friendly hydropower.

Our headquarters in Hood River, Oregon, inspires staff in both their professional and personal lives. Hood River's abundant apple, pear, and cherry orchards and salmon-bearing streams provide daily context for our work. And Hood River's one-hour commute to Portland provides staff with easy access to a regional transportation hub, facilitating travel to and from our headquarters.

SO THAT'S US. NOW ABOUT THE WORK

The Montana Project Manager will help irrigation districts, ditch companies, and agricultural producers to execute comprehensive irrigation modernization strategies that accelerate agricultural, environmental, and community benefits. They will help to help plan, develop, finance, and implement irrigation modernization projects under these strategies. And they will help to build and maintain relationships with a broad range of partners ranging from multi-generational ranches to large-scale institutional funders. In a given day, the Montana Project Manager may tour a potential project site with a ditch company representative, review an irrigation modernization strategy with an irrigation advisor, and meet with agency staff about an emerging opportunity.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

- Execute comprehensive irrigation modernization strategies developed with irrigation districts, ditch companies, and agricultural producers
- Build and maintain relationships with current and potential partners such as agricultural producers, irrigation district staff and board members, elected officials, agency staff, funding partners, and non-profit organizations
- Support FCA staff and contractors completing assessments of irrigation modernization opportunities on behalf of irrigation districts, ditch companies, and agricultural producers
- Assist FCA staff and contractors in researching potential irrigation modernization permitting needs, funding opportunities, and implementation partnerships
- Support FCA staff and contractors collecting, collating, and managing data related to irrigation modernization efforts
- Assist in developing communications materials related to irrigation modernization efforts
- Schedule, participate in, and document virtual and in-person meetings with FCA staff, contractors, and partners
- Travel to potential project sites and project installations

A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE WOULD HAVE, AMONG OTHER ASSETS

- An undergraduate degree or equivalent experience
- 5+ years of professional experience in agriculture, infrastructure, natural resources, or a related field
- Excellent relationship skills and demonstrated success at working with community members representing a broad range of interests, perspectives, and values
- Experience working with agricultural and/or environmental communities, organizations, and/or individuals, preferably in Montana
- Demonstrated success in helping to plan, develop, finance, and implement on-the-ground projects
- Exceptional verbal and written communication skills
- The ability to work alone and as part of a cohesive team
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office suite
- A valid driver's license and reliable transportation

AN IDEAL CANDIDATE WOULD FURTHER HAVE, AMONG OTHER ASSETS

- 2+ years of additional professional or academic experience in agriculture, infrastructure, natural resources, or a related field
- Experience with state and federal rules and regulations related to permitting and implementing irrigation infrastructure projects
- Excellent project management skills
- Experience writing technical, academic, or professional documents

INTERESTED? SOME FINE PRINT ABOUT JOINING OUR TEAM

We provide a competitive salary, vacation, insurance, and retirement package, and we believe that happy staff deliver the best outcomes. As such, we provide flexibility for staff to spend time doing what they love. We have staff working remotely as part of our normal operations, and we look for remote staff such as the Montana-based Montana Project Manager to be in Hood River periodically to connect in person. We are an equal opportunity employer and value diversity. All employment is based on qualifications, merit, and business need; qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.

TO APPLY

To apply for the position of FCA Montana Project Manager, please submit an attached cover letter and resume to info@fcasolutions.org with "FCA Montana Project Manager" as the subject of the email. Please do not contact FCA staff directly about this position.

Applications should be addressed to:

Julie Davies O'Shea, Executive Director
Farmers Conservation Alliance
102 State Street
Hood River, OR 97031

Position is open until filled