

The Nature Conservancy

POSITION DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	CONSERVATION PRACTITIONER IV
POSITION TITLE:	SC SOUTHERN BLUE RIDGE LAND STEWARD (Part-time position, 21 hours/week)
JOB FAMILY:	Conservation
JOB NUMBER:	450004
SALARY GRADE:	5
FLSA STATUS:	Exempt
SUPERVISED BY:	Conservation Ecologist
LOCATION:	Greenville, SC area
DATE:	September 21, 2009
DEADLINE TO APPLY:	October 23, 2009

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree and 3 years experience in natural resource management or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Experience communicating with the public and/or media both in writing and verbally.
- Experience using common software applications such as Word, Excel, Web browsers, etc
- Experience performing physical work.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

The SBR Land Steward will work in collaboration with the Science and Stewardship staff and the Southern Blue Ridge Project Director to accomplish conservation work in the upstate of South Carolina. This will include one or more of the following functions:

- Preserve management and monitoring
- Participation in broader stewardship networks for issues such as fire, invasives, and ecological management
- Assist with easement monitoring
- Supervise and coordinate volunteers
- Develop and manage contracts for work on our preserves and other conservation projects in the upstate
- Participate in prescribed fire discussions and program building in the Southern Blue Ridge project area.
- Grant writing and administration
- Stewardship program record keeping
- Communicate and collaborate with landowners, partners, and the general public on land-based projects
- Support the Marketing and Philanthropy staff by providing information about TNC's conservation work, contact with potential donors, leading field trips, etc.
- Other tasks as required

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree and 3-5 years experience in natural resource management or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Ability and willingness to apply science to decision-making and guide activities
- Ability to communicate and work closely with scientists
- Working with media and influential officials, especially governmental, to improve Conservancy programs' outcomes
- Familiarity with principles of land acquisition

- Knowledge of ecological land management principles
- Knowledge of current trends and practices in conservation, land management and natural resource preservation
- Demonstrated experience communicating effectively with the public and/or media
- Completing tasks independently with respect to timeline(s)
- Managing time and diverse activities under deadlines while delivering quality results
- Working knowledge of common software applications (e.g.; Word, Excel, Web browsers) and Arcview 9 GIS and GPS software.
- Excellent communication skills via written, spoken and graphical means in English
- Knowledge of Blue Ridge plant and animal communities

COMPLEXITY/PROBLEM SOLVING:

- Coordinates multiple projects with several variables, setting realistic deadlines and managing timeframes
- Interprets guidelines, evaluates information and modifies processes to adapt to changing circumstances
- Compiles data, resolves disparities, and modifies processes to generate plans and implement strategies
- Resolves routine issues independently, consulting with supervisor to develop plans for resolution of complex and unusual problems
- Cultivates and develops creative ideas to improve conservation strategies
- Applies diversified knowledge of scientific principles and practices to a variety of assignments
- Negotiates complex agreements in political environments
- Identifies and disseminates lessons learned, best practices and methods, tools, consistencies and inconsistencies across plans

DISCRETION/LATITUDE/DECISION-MAKING:

- Ability to make sound decisions for TNC in the following areas (legal, financial, conservation, reputation)
- Makes independent decisions based on analysis, experience, and judgment
- Performs tasks with minimal supervision

RESPONSIBILITY/OVERSIGHT – FINANCIAL AND SUPERVISORY:

- May supervise administrative and professional staff with responsibility for performance management, training and development.
- May lead or monitor work groups consisting of staff, interns, and volunteers covering a wide geographic area
- May need to gain cooperation from outside parties to accomplish program goals
- Financial responsibility may include working within/managing a budget to complete projects, negotiating and contracting with vendors, assisting with budget development and meeting fundraising targets.
- Ensures program compliance with internal policies and external requirements

COMMUNICATIONS/INTERPERSONAL CONTACTS:

- Networks with diverse groups, including land owners, conservation partners, government officials, donors, board members and the general public to recruit support for the Conservancy and publicize Conservancy efforts
- Provides a variety of information to staff and others, contributing to conservation projects and assisting workflow throughout the organization.
- Works and communicates effectively with a diverse group of people, including scientists, preserve staff and others, providing and obtaining needed information
- Collaborates with a wide range of conservation partners to identify research needs, present technical concepts at national or international conferences, and support fieldwork
- Provides training for internal and external colleagues on ecological and conservational scientific principles
- Ability to simplify and explain the principles of conservation science and practices to technical and non-technical audiences
- Communicates strategic project goals and objectives.

WORKING CONDITIONS/PHYSICAL EFFORT:

The SBR Land Steward may work in variable weather conditions, at remote locations, on difficult and hazardous terrain and under physically demanding circumstances. These conditions:

- require considerable physical exertion and/or muscular strain
- present frequent possibility of injury
- require long hours in isolated settings

Must have valid drivers license and be willing and able to participate in TNC's Vehicle Safety Program.

TO APPLY: Submit application including cover letter and resume via nature.org/careers.

The Nature Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer.