



Seasonal Field Assistant - Columbia Land Trust

Help preserve vital lands while learning about Land Trust conservation practices, restoration techniques, and Pacific Northwest ecology.

Position Description:

The Seasonal Field Assistant will support land management activities on Columbia Land Trust conserved lands located throughout northwest Oregon, the Columbia River Gorge, and southwest Washington. The Seasonal Field Assistant will spend roughly 75% of their time participating in a variety of land management activities such as weed control and infrastructure maintenance. In addition to land management activities, the position will support the monitoring of fee-owned lands and conservation easements. Monitoring field work will involve traversing properties by foot to take photos and make observations about vegetation, wildlife, hydrology, boundaries, and other site conditions. The Seasonal Field Assistant will be responsible for developing monitoring reports that include written observations, maps, and photos.

Timeline:

Application materials due by March 31st at 5:00 PM.

April – June (flexible start and end date).

This is a seasonal position that extends for approximately 300 hours.

An average of 25 hours per week. Actual hours may vary from 20-40 hours per week depending on availability and duties.

Position requires a commitment of at least 10 weeks.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Support land management projects that may include weed control (chemical and mechanical), infrastructure maintenance, restoration project monitoring, mapping, ecological surveys or other management activities. Land management activities will generally occur in the field with staff but may also include preparation or follow up work in the office. May also include maintenance and upkeep of field equipment and supplies. (70%)
- Conduct field monitoring visits with staff or volunteers to conservation easements and fee-owned properties (includes urban and rural properties ranging from 1-2000 acres in size). (15%)
- Generate monitoring reports: includes compile monitoring photos and data, enter monitoring notes into an online database, and file reports. (5%)
- Prepare monitoring materials (maps and documents) in advance of field visit (5%)
- Other office work including data management, mapping, and analysis using GIS software, based on the Seasonal Field Assistant's skills and interests. (up to 5%)

Desired Skills and Qualifications:

- Background in natural resource management or natural sciences
- Basic knowledge of PNW flora and fauna, invasive plant species, and water quality issues
- Field experience in land conservation or environmental stewardship
- Willingness to work with herbicides for chemical control of invasive plants. Experience with herbicide application is preferred, but not required. Training will be provided.
- Physical ability to use a 4 gallon backpack sprayer weighing up to 35 pounds; and ability to lift 50 pounds
- Ability to work in remote, often rugged, and adverse conditions safely and responsibly
- Familiarity with GPS and GIS technology, and tablets or smartphones.
- Ability to use a compass, map, and hand tools
- Strong communication skills
- Ability to work independently in the field and office
- Attention to detail and tolerance for data focused tasks
- Valid Washington or Oregon Driver's License and good driving record

Work Environment: Roughly 85% time spent in the field and 15% in the office

Supervision: The Seasonal Field Assistant will be supervised by the Stewardship Assistant with additional supervision and training provided by the Vancouver Land Steward.

Considerations:

The Seasonal Field Assistant will work out of Columbia Land Trust's office in Vancouver, WA. Reliable daily transportation to Vancouver is required. In addition, this position may occasionally require the use of a personal vehicle to drive to distant properties (up to 300 miles round trip). If the use of a personal vehicle is required for field visits, the Assistant will be compensated at the Washington State mileage rate (\$0.535/mile). Seasonal Field Assistant is responsible for supplying their own basic field gear (field clothes, rain gear, boots, backpack, etc.).

Compensation: \$15 an hour, non-exempt position without benefits.

Application Instructions:

Send a cover letter and resume to Mitch Attig, Columbia Land Trust Stewardship Assistant, at mattig@columbialandtrust.org, 360-993-5072.

About Columbia Land Trust: Since 1990, Columbia Land Trust has protected, in perpetuity, approximately 32,000 acres of lands along the lower 250 miles of the Columbia River. A majority of the protection has been accomplished with land ownership, with significant holdings as conservation easements or other conservation agreements, as well as transfer of land to public agencies. The Land Trust's service region includes 13 Oregon and Washington counties, extending from the Pacific Ocean on the west to beyond the eastern edge of the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area, near the John Day River. The Land Trust has more than 3,000 supporters in Oregon and Washington and has embarked on an ambitious plan to expand public participation in the conservation of the great lands of the Columbia River

region. Columbia Land Trust's headquarters are located on the campus of beautiful Fort Vancouver, WA. More information about Columbia Land Trust can be found at www.columbialandtrust.org