



ECONOMIST JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Economist

Full-Time

Based in Hood River, Oregon

Date Posted: August 2, 2017

ABOUT FCA:

Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) works to modernize irrigation infrastructure through technologies and consulting for the benefit of agriculture, the environment, and communities. FCA established as a non-profit organization in 2005 to market the newly-developed Farmers Screen fish screen. Over the last decade, FCA has evolved beyond just the Farmers Screen technology to work with irrigators, agencies, environmental organizations, elected officials, and many others to provide a one-stop shop for modernizing irrigation infrastructure. As most irrigation systems in the Western United States are nearly a hundred years old, modernizing these systems is one of the best opportunities for achieving agricultural resiliency, economic development, and environmental benefits.

JOB SUMMARY:

FCA's Economist will provide high quality deliverables for FCA's Farmers Screen and Irrigation Modernization programs. The ideal candidate will have experience with researching and analyzing the effects of proposed policies, management actions, and projects on agricultural, environmental, and community resources. In a typical week, the Economist may draft part of a Watershed Plan - Environmental Assessment, assess the lifetime economic benefit of a FCA fish screen v. alternative screen, or refine and continue to develop a modernization benefits assessment tool. In that same week, the Economist may join other staff to meet with an irrigation district manager or participate in a call with state agencies.

This full-time, exempt position provides a competitive salary and benefits package.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

- Prepare National Economic Development analyses for irrigation modernization efforts
- Prepare case studies of the economic benefits of irrigation modernization for agricultural, community, and the environment
- Collate, review, and summarize economic data related to environmental, agricultural, and community conditions
- Evaluate baseline conditions and analyze the potential financial and economic effects of proposed irrigation modernization actions, projects, and programs
- Develop, revise, and manage new and existing economic tools for evaluating the financial and economic effects of irrigation modernization
- Interact with irrigation district staff and/or board members, agency staff, and or community members via phone, email, and in person
- Participate in FCA staff and partner working sessions

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE, AND ABILITIES:

- B.A or B.S. degree in economics, natural resources, agricultural sciences, or a related field
- 2+ years professional experience in collecting data and performing economic analyses for environmental compliance (e.g., NEPA)
- Ability to perform an array of quantitative analyses, including regional economic impact analyses, cost-benefit analyses, and economic modeling.
- Experience working with agricultural and/or environmental communities, organizations, and/or individuals
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to work alone and as part of a cohesive team
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite and Adobe Acrobat

A valid driver's license and reliable transportation are required for this position. This position also requires the ability to occasionally traverse uneven ground such as stream beds and agricultural fields.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE, AND ABILITIES:

- Advanced degree in economics with a focus on natural resources, agricultural sciences, or a related field
- 4+ years professional experience in collecting data and performing economic analyses for environmental compliance (e.g., NEPA)
- Experience with spatial data evaluation

TO APPLY:

To apply for the position of FCA Economist, please submit a cover letter and resume to info@fcasolutions.org with "FCA Economist" as the subject of the email. Please do not contact FCA directly about this opportunity.

Applications should be addressed to:

Julie Davies O'Shea, Executive Director
Farmers Conservation Alliance
11 3rd St, Suite 101
Hood River, OR 97031

Position is open until filled