

TITLE: Restoration Specialist, Illinois River Watershed Partnership

SUMMARY

The Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP) is seeking a dedicated, knowledgeable person to lead and coordinate aquatic and riparian restoration projects. This position will work closely with the Executive Director to identify, develop and implement such projects. The Restoration Specialist will be an individual who is committed to improving the environment and views people, land use, and water resources as important to the history, culture, ecology, economics, and future of Northwest Arkansas and the Illinois River Watershed. This position will be based in Cave Springs, Arkansas with up to five years of dedicated funding.

ABOUT IRWP

IRWP is a non-profit organization that advocates for community-based water quality improvement in Northwest Arkansas. Our mission is to improve the integrity of the Illinois River through education, monitoring, and implementation of conservation and restoration projects. IRWP's Board of Directors envisions the Illinois River and its tributaries to be a fully functioning ecosystem, where ecological protection, conservation, and economically productive uses support diverse aquatic and riparian communities, meet all state and federal water quality standards, promote economic sustainability, and provide recreational opportunities.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conduct landowner outreach in focal conservation areas, identify riparian restoration opportunities, and develop the information needed to screen opportunities based on strategic priorities.
- Develop and manage project budgets including identifying other public or private funding opportunities and liaising with staff offering such opportunities.
- Negotiate landowner contracts including project terms, timelines, and long-term maintenance contracts.
- Where appropriate, solicit, negotiate, and contract with vendors for project design and installation.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- A bachelor's degree in natural resource management, conservation biology or another related field with a minimum of two to three years' work experience.
- Experience with basic computer applications such as Word, Excel, Office and Powerpoint. Experience with Access databases and ESRI GIS software a plus.
- Knowledge of current trends and practices in conservation, land management, and natural resource preservation and the ability to explain these practices to technical and non-technical audiences.
- Ability to work on multiple projects at once.
- Effective communication with individuals and groups in face-to-face, one-on-one settings, group settings, or using a telephone.
- Produce written documents with clearly organized thoughts using proper sentence construction, punctuation and grammar.
- Analyze, interpret, and report on project implementation and document results.
- Work cooperatively and tactfully with other employees and the public.
- Work independently and exercise good judgment.
- Commitment to practicing professional standards of ethical behavior.
- Oversee budgets and work with IRWP Director to manage expenses.
- Work in settings that may be mildly to moderately physically strenuous (i.e. outdoors in various weather conditions) and willingness to work with standard equipment associated with ecological restoration projects.
- Work some evenings and Saturdays as deemed necessary to accommodate public events.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to Nicole Hardiman at director@irwp.org by close of business Monday, October 22, 2018.