



Position Opening, 10/21/09:

Director of Northwest Certified Forestry Northwest Natural Resource Group

Background:

The Northwest Natural Resource Group (NNRG) is a conservation and rural economic development non-profit organization based in Port Townsend, Washington (see www.nnrg.org). NNRG's mission is to *"promote innovative forest management strategies that improve the health of forest and freshwater ecosystems while increasing economic development in rural communities."* The organization is leading the effort in the Pacific Northwest to develop conservation forestry incentives and infrastructure, markets for ecosystem services, and solutions for the issues facing small woodland owners. Already the regional leader in sustainable forestry certification and market development, NNRG is actively positioning itself to become the foremost proactive ecosystem services development organization in the Northwest in support of small forest landowners through carbon sequestration, water quality, and biodiversity based incentives.

Summary of Position:

NNRG's programs focus on assisting the small woodland owners of Washington and Oregon, be they private, public or non-profit ownerships. Services are delivered to woodland owners via membership in the Northwest Certified Forestry program (NCF), a comprehensive set of economic and educational benefits. The five year old program currently has 130 members managing a collective 45,000 acres. The only programmatic requirement of membership is certification to Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standards (see www.fscus.org) – all other program elements are optional. Program members may also pursue carbon offset income through NNRG's NW Neutral program (see www.nwneutral.org).

The Director of Northwest Certified Forestry is responsible for all aspects of program, staff, contractor and member management related to Northwest Certified Forestry and is the primary representative of the program. The NCF Director's primary objectives are to ensure optimal program delivery, aggressive market development, and exemplary member service through a broad set of integrated activities.

The NCF Director reports to the NNRG Executive Director and serves as a member of the management team along with the ED, Director of Operations & Finance, and Development Director. As a member of this team, the NCF Director also contributes to the development and implementation of organizational strategies, policies and practices and interacts with the NNRG Board of Directors.

Required Qualifications:

- A demonstrated commitment to both NNRG's mission and small woodland owners in the Pacific Northwest
- Strong background and work experience in management
- At least five years experience in forestry or a related natural resource field
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, and a collaborative management style
- A demonstrated commitment to high ethical standards and a diverse workplace
- A healthy sense of humor

Preferred Qualifications:

- B.A./B.S. or higher in forestry or a related natural resource field
- Experience with FSC certification of forest management and/or chain of custody
- Experience in FSC market development, specialty markets, and/or the forest products industry generally
- Experience with forest carbon offsets and/or other ecosystem service markets
- Proficiency in Excel, Word, Outlook, Publisher, and database software
- Demonstrated ability to balance oversight with the delegation of responsibility
- Demonstrated vision, leadership, and innovation in managing staff and contractors and major projects or initiatives
- The ability to organize and prioritize a wide diversity of tasks in a fast-paced work environment
- The ability to debate issues of importance to the organization based on facts and multiple perspectives

Responsibilities:***Program Management***

- Ensure achievement of basic program metrics, such as earned revenue and membership targets
- Manage NNRG's FSC group certificate to ensure ongoing compliance
- Constantly improve program operational systems to increase efficiency and value

Recruitment & Member Services

- Oversee NCF recruitment, including direct responsibility for all areas outside of defined local 'hubs' managed by field staff
- Oversee the NCF Preferred Provider network of natural resource professionals
- Oversee NCF communications, such as newsletters, email updates, conference and partner-driven presentations, and media placement
- Oversee NCF educational programming, including curriculum development and coordination with partners

Market Development

- Assist members in maximizing value through ongoing strategic advice, market intelligence, relationship building, and information transfer

- Support field staff and partners in developing all types of market opportunities for members
- Facilitate member entry into NW Neutral and other emerging ecosystem service markets

Compensation & Location:

Northwest Natural Resource Group offers competitive compensation and benefits and is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The location of this position is Port Townsend, Washington.

To Apply:

Send a cover letter, resume, additional writing sample, and three references in digital format to:

Shelley French, Director of Operations & Finance
Northwest Natural Resource Group
PO Box 1067
Port Townsend, WA 98368
shelley@nnrg.org

Application deadline is Monday, November 9th, 2009.

Interested parties are encouraged to learn more about NNRG at www.nnrg.org.