



# FARM/NATURAL RESOURCE PLANNER

Skagit Conservation District

## THE POSITION

The Farm/Natural Resource Planner works directly with the Senior Planner and in collaboration with the District Forester, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Coordinator and Outreach staff. The position's primary responsibility is to provide technical assistance to agricultural operators in Skagit County. A successful planner will conduct site visits, create and revise conservation plans, and implement resource conservation practices. The purpose of this work is to protect water resources, improve soil health, and enhance wildlife habitat, while improving farm operations and meeting landowner needs. This person shall become knowledgeable of the funding contract(s) work tasks and perform them as required by the Conservation Commission funding guidelines.

The position will also:

- Coordinate with Outreach and Education staff to develop outreach materials and host educational workshops.
- Work with and provide other agencies information on SCD programs.
- Submit monthly fiscal forms, records, and vouchers.

## DUTIES

- Respond to voluntary land manager requests for assistance. Connect cooperators with resources and conduct site visits as requested.
- Develop resource management plans with an emphasis on water quality improvement and meet the planning criteria for Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).
- Assist private land managers in implementation of Conservation Plans and Best Management Practices. Provide on-the-ground consultation and technical assistance to implement best management practices as outlined in conservation plans.
- Assist in implementation of cost share programs and grant writing.
- Assure that resource management and nutrient management plans meet the USDA – NRCS requirements.
- Provide on the ground technical assistance to private landowners.
- Manage cost-share programs including landowner agreements, management of funds, reimbursements, and following existing cost-share protocols.
- Enter the required project and landowner data in the Conservation Commission database and prepare reports on activities, including progress toward project goals as directed by the district manager.
- Other duties as assigned.

## SERVICE AREA

Skagit County

## LOCATION

Mount Vernon Office

## HOURS

40 hours per week

## SALARY

\$45,000-\$60,000 per year  
Depending on Experience

## BENEFITS

- Public Employees Retirement System (PERS)
- Health and dental coverage
- Life Insurance policy
- Annual leave, sick leave, and paid holidays

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## QUALIFICATIONS

- Technical degree in a compatible field of study from an accredited institution in agriculture, agronomy, natural resource management, environmental science, or a closely related field.
- Solid background in agricultural operations, livestock husbandry and natural resource management.
- Demonstrated experience and understanding of local agricultural practices, interpreting county codes, working with the public on natural resources or agricultural issues and addressing resource management problems.
- Knowledge of a broad range of soil and water conservation principles, techniques, methods and practices to apply and install conservation systems which involve complex and diverse agricultural and other land uses.
- Ability to work independently and manage workload, schedule, and resources to meet deadlines and achieve goals.
- Ability to manage grants, contracts, and other funding awards.
- Excellent customer service, great communication skills, takes initiative, self-motivated, and team player. Ability to develop strong relationships with clients and coworkers built on trust and the ability to exceed expectations.
- Knowledge and skills in computer use, database creation and maintenance, drafting, scheduling, GIS, Microsoft Office, and CAD.
- Ability to work in the field on various terrain and under various conditions.

## DESIRED SKILLS

- A Bachelor's degree in a natural resource/environmental field with coursework related to agriculture, soils, forage production, livestock production, or ecology.
- At least one year of experience writing farm plans that meet NRCS standards and specifications, and a technical degree in a compatible field of study.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Certification in basic farm planning or certified nutrient management planning.
- Knowledge of livestock types and livestock management in relation to small acreages as well as larger parcels.
- Experience in farming equipment and tools.

## HOW TO APPLY

Submit [application](#), cover letter and resume with at least three references to Skagit CD via [skagitcd@skagitcd.org](mailto:skagitcd@skagitcd.org). Position is open until filled. First review round will occur for applications submitted by October 2, 2023 at 4:30PM. Skagit CD is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applicants may be subject to a background check.

For more information contact Emmett Wild at 360-899-8761.



## ABOUT SKAGIT CD

*Providing natural resource support and education to Skagit county since 1942.*

*SCD staff works with private partners, local, state, and federal government, agricultural and environmental organizations, and other conservation districts. The SCD is funded through grants, an annual native plant sale, and state general fund money requiring a dollar-for-dollar match.*