The Conservation Science Specialist (CSS) works closely with the Conservation Science and Restoration teams to perform essential functions to support the successful implementation of Laguna Foundation restoration and conservation science projects, specifically (but not limited to) vernal pool habitat management and rare plant conservation and restoration. The CSS is responsible for the implementation of field work, often working independently, or supervising Restoration Technicians, maintaining project records, and assisting with preparing monitoring and progress reports to funders.

Key Accountabilities:

• Site monitoring for management, restoration, and conservation needs, requirements, and goals.
• Plant surveys and mapping of invasive species.
• Collection of monitoring data and data entry.
• Habitat management of restored and/or preserved areas (mowing, weeding, planting).
• Invasive species management, including plant identification, assisting with development of treatment plans, and working independently to implement manual and chemical removal methods.
• Maintenance of tools and equipment.
• Maintenance of project records (tracking hours, equipment, purchases and documenting field observations).
• Planning and implementation of volunteer/community stewardship events in coordination with community education staff.
• Occasional supervision and training of restoration project work crews (employees, contractors, or volunteers).
Physical Requirements

- Ability to perform physical tasks and field labor (e.g., mowing, digging, weed-whacking, etc.), walk over rough terrain, and lift 70 lbs.
- Comfortable working in variable weather conditions, with the potential to encounter poisonous plants and stinging and biting insects.
- Requires capacity to navigate a two-story building via stairs.
- This job's specific vision abilities include close vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus; ability to see and respond to dangerous situations.
- The noise level in the work environment ranges from quiet to loud, depending on equipment use.

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Biology, Environmental Science, Natural Resources Management or closely related fields; or Associates degree plus two or more years of related work experience.
- Two years of prior experience in one or more items in the Key Accountabilities list.
- Ability to work independently, as well as maintain a positive working relationship with other team members.
- Strong attention to detail and accuracy.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Class C Driver’s License, with a clean record; reliable transportation to and from the Laguna Environmental Center and job sites during scheduled workdays.
- Proficiency with using Microsoft Office applications and Google Suite.

Desired Qualifications

- Knowledge of California fauna, flora, and ecosystems.
- Basic understanding of ecological principles and current thinking in conservation.
- Use of GPS technology to collect field data; knowledge of GIS software.
- Basic mechanical knowledge, confidence operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting field equipment.
- Experience applying herbicide.

Compensation

$22.00 per hour. This is a full-time (40 hours per week) position with a competitive benefits package that includes employer-sponsored health, dental, and vision insurance including up to 90% employer paid premium; accrued vacation, sick time, 14 paid holidays, 2 personal days; and participation in a 403(b) retirement plan.

Schedule

The schedule is generally Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM – 3:30 PM, with occasional weekends. Some flexibility is available. Daily work schedules may vary with seasons and job site factors.

How To Apply

Please submit an email to jobs@lagunafoundation.org with “Conservation Science Specialist” in the subject line or mail to the address below. Include your resume and the names and contact information of at least three professional references. No phone calls. Do not submit a photo.

Application Deadline: September 4, 2022, 11:59 pm.

Laguna Foundation
900 Sanford Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
www.LagunaFoundation.org

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