



Natural Climate Solutions Forester
Full-Time, Salaried - Steamboat Spring, CO

About YVSC

The Yampa Valley Sustainability Council (YVSC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located in Steamboat Springs, CO (Routt County). Established in 2009, YVSC is guided by the mission, “to serve as a resource and catalyst for building a sustainable community in the Yampa Valley region.” YVSC programs span Energy, Waste Diversion, Climate Action, Advocacy and Community Education and Outreach. In recognition that climate change is the most pressing sustainability issue of our time, we are committed to supporting Routt County and municipalities in the effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through decarbonization and carbon sequestration.

Position Description

The Natural Climate Solutions Forester will be a leading member of the Climate Action Program and will work closely with the Executive Director to support, establish, manage, monitor and report on science-driven forestry and carbon sequestration programs. This position provides YVSC with technical and scientific support and leadership around Natural Climate Solutions (NCS) pathways -- including the climate benefits of integrated forest-rangeland stewardship, reforestation, forest management, riparian forest restoration, among others – and implements and manages ecological and well-designed forestry solutions. This position will manage YVSC’s existing Yampa River Forest Restoration Project and identify and develop new NCS programs.

Responsibilities and Scope

Candidates will primarily be managing existing and developing new science-informed forestry projects that reduce GHG emissions through carbon sequestration. The candidate will regularly lead multidisciplinary, public-private collaborations and contribute to outreach and community education that supports and advances program and organizational goals. Existing project management responsibilities will include: managing existing grants, writing interim grant reports, summarizing successes and failures/challenges, donor relations, and managing financial reporting. Additional responsibilities include:

- Conducting assessments on the climate benefits of broader YVSC program activities (e.g. GHG emissions savings through waste diversion, land cover analysis for carbon sequestration, etc.).
- Leading/contributing to education and outreach on forestry and conservation science principles relating to climate action.
- Reviewing and synthesizing relevant scientific literature into technical and non-technical papers and memos, donor reports, oral presentation of results to technical and non-technical parties.
- Translate research findings and best available science into project guidelines, tools, and/or best practice for the organization and the broader conservation community.
- Supporting fundraising, recruiting sponsorships and grant writing efforts.

- Working with the Executive Director to create strategic direction and develop programs.
- Create and/or support the creation of communication materials for YVSC events, media and advertising in order to accurately convey program successes and relevance.
- Participate in monthly YVSC community meetings and other meetings as needed for program development and outreach.
- Coordinate and work with volunteers for community-involved program events.
- Monitor and maintain (e.g. irrigation, beaver mitigation, invasive removal, etc.) existing YVSC reforestation efforts.
- Develop, implement and manage short and long-term reforestation projects that expand existing reforestation efforts.

Qualifications and Background

The candidate should ideally have core scientific training in forestry and forest ecology, and additional experience in and/or exposure to related fields, including carbon measurement, conservation planning, and analysis of experimental, field and remotely sensed data.

Minimum Qualifications

- MA degree in Forestry, Forest Ecology, Natural Resource Management, or related field, and at least 4 years of experience, **or equivalent combination of education and experience.*
- Experience manipulating, analyzing and interpreting statistical or environmental data.
- Experience managing complex projects, including the financial aspects and coordinating the work of peers and partners.
- Experience working and communicating with a wide range of people.

Desired Qualifications

- Certified Professional Forester.
- Experience in and/or exposure to carbon measurement and conservation planning.
- ArcGIS training and experience analyzing field and remotely sensed data.
- Experience developing trainings and/or training staff to follow field protocols and meet program needs.
- Record of peer reviewed publications in scientific journals.
- Demonstrated expertise in the application of science to a range of forest ecosystems (esp. upland, riparian).
- Ability to diagnose complex problems and identify solutions.
- Ability to work independently, creatively and proactively to solve problems.
- Experience fundraising and/or writing grants and research proposals.
- Strong team player who can build productive relationships and work collaboratively across the organization, with local, state and federal partners, and community members.

Salary and Benefits

The Yampa Valley Sustainability Council offers a competitive salary commensurate with experience. Benefits include vacation package, paid holidays and a flexible work schedule as this position requires attendance at evening and weekend events.

How to Apply

To apply, submit cover letter and resume to info@yvsc.org by 11:59 p.m. Mountain Time on May 25, 2020.