

## **Job Description**

**Job Title:** Conata Basin Assistant Ranch Hand- short-term

**Job ID:** 11070

**Location:** Minnesota;South Dakota

**Full/  
Part Time:** Full-Time

**Regular/  
Temporary:** Temporary

**OFFICE LOCATION:** Badlands Ranch, Eastern Pennington County, SD

### **ABOUT US**

The Nature Conservancy is the world's leading conservation organization, working in all 50 states and more than 33 countries. Founded in 1951, the mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

### **POSITION SUMMARY**

The Conata Basin Assistant Ranch Hand will work as part of a team with other Conservancy staff, neighbors and agency partners on projects associated with the Conata Basin ranches. The Conata Basin Assistant Ranch Hand will act as a representative of the Conservancy and must be people friendly, team-oriented, have strong integrity, a positive attitude and a strong commitment to the values of The Nature Conservancy.

This position is based out of Badlands Ranch, located south of Wall, SD. The Conata Basin Assistant Ranch Hand is a non-exempt, full-time short-term position, offering competitive pay. The position is supervised by the Western Dakota Program Director. This position will work from mid-June through mid-October 2009.

### **DUTIES:**

- Perform various tasks typical of ranch management such as fencing, spraying weeds, moving and doctoring range cattle.
- Maintain facilities, equipment and vehicles in clean and good working order.
- Complete other tasks as requested.
- Complete administrative paperwork promptly and accurately.
- Maintain constructive, positive relationships with staff, neighbors, partners and visitors to the Conata Basin.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

- High school diploma or GED and 1-2 years of training in an agricultural or science-related field or equivalent related experience in cattle production and 3-4 years ranching experience or equivalent mix of experience and education.
- Valid driver's license and safe driving record.
- Ability to perform physical work sometimes under adverse conditions or in inclement weather. Must be willing and able to lift 100 pounds, carry a 45-pound backpack for up to eight hours a day, and hike and/or ride a horse ten miles a day.
- Must be able to carefully and consistently follow safety and operational protocols.
- Experience with fence construction and maintenance, general carpentry, tractor, ATV and chainsaw operation, cattle handling and general ranch work is required.
- Current certification in first aid is highly preferred.

## **WORKING CONDITIONS/PHYSICAL EFFORT:**

The Conata Basin Assistant Ranch Hand must be willing and able to work in variable weather conditions, at remote locations, on difficult and hazardous terrain, and under physically demanding circumstances. These conditions:

- require considerable physical exertion and/or muscular strain
- present frequent possibility of injury
- require long hours in isolated settings, often on horseback

## **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

The primary duties of the Conata Basin Assistant Ranch Hand are to assist with the completion of land management activities on the ranches owned by The Nature Conservancy in the Conata Basin. The job is broad in scope, including typical ranch tasks such as building and fixing fences and corrals, operating farm and ranch equipment, controlling weeds, maintaining ranch yards in clean and safe condition, handling and caring for cattle and horses and repairing and maintaining vehicles and facilities. Physical requirements of the job include the ability to lift 100 pounds, hike and/or ride a horse ten miles a day, and carry a 45-pound backpack for extended periods of time.

## **BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

- High school diploma or GED and 1-2 years training in an agricultural or science-related field or equivalent related experience in cattle production and 3-4 years ranching experience or equivalent.
- Experience working on horseback and with low-stress livestock handling methods
- Experience operating ranch/farm equipment (tractor, sprayer, chainsaw, mower, etc.)
- Experience performing physical work and ability to lift 100 pounds, carry a 45 pound backpack for up to 8 hours a day and hike/ride ten miles a day.
- Ability to maintain constructive, positive relationships with staff, neighbors, partners, donors and visitors to the Conata Basin Ranches

**ADDITIONAL JOB INFORMATION:**

This is a short-term, full-time position from June 15 through October 30, 2009

**BENEFITS:**

The Nature Conservancy offers competitive compensation, excellent benefits, flexible work policies and a collaborative work environment. We also provide professional development opportunities and promote from within. As a result, you will find a culture that supports and inspires conservation achievement and personal development, both within the workplace and beyond.

**SALARY INFORMATION:**

\$10.00 per hour

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Please submit resume and cover letter as one document by June 12, 2009

All sections of online application must be completed (e.g. work experience and education, even if information is included in resume) to be considered for a position.

**EOE STATEMENT:**

The Nature Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**Sonia Winter**

*Program Assistant*

*MN, ND, SD*

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