SOUTHWEST MONTANA LAND STEWARD

TITLE: Southwest Montana Land Steward
TYPE: Full-time, exempt
LOCATION: Bozeman/Gallatin Valley. This is a work from home position.
REPORTS TO: Stewardship Director
SALARY: $50,000-65,000/year DOE
BENEFITS: Company health insurance plan, retirement, 401(k), MLR-issued
                    vehicle, cell phone, paid leave, and holiday observances.
ANTICIPATED START: March 2023
APPLY BY: January 9, 2023

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Position Summary

The Montana Land Reliance (MLR) seeks a full-time Southwest Montana Land Steward to monitor MLR's growing conservation easement portfolio in southwestern Montana. MLR Land Stewards foster a cooperative relationship with easement landowners based on trust, respect, and fairness. They serve as the first point of contact on behalf of MLR for easement landowners and conduct annual visits to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of its easements. The position will also produce Resource Documentation Reports that accurately record the condition of properties for new conservation easement projects via narrative, mapping, and photographic data collection.

About MLR

The Montana Land Reliance is a non-profit 501(c)3, accredited land trust who partners with private landowners to permanently protect agricultural lands, fish and wildlife habitat, and open space through the execution of perpetual conservation easements. Founded in 1978, MLR has conserved over 1.2 million acres of land in Montana with over 1,000 landowners. MLR is headquartered in Helena, MT, with satellite offices in Bozeman and Bigfork. MLR employs 13 full-time staff and 19 part-time Land Stewards. To learn more, visit www.mtlandreliance.org.

Primary Responsibilities

- Monitor conservation easements in southwestern Montana, initially focused around Bozeman and Big Sky, with an increasing range from Big Timber to the west, and Helena to the south, in the coming years.
- Act as a first point of contact for easement landowners in southwestern Montana.
- Prepare necessary monitoring documentation in conjunction with annual property site visits.
- Ensure property compliance with MLR conservation easements and address violations in consultation with other MLR stewardship staff and conduct necessary follow-up.
- Digitize working hard copy files into electronic format.
- Prepare Resource Documentation Reports that document the human development and natural resource attributes of properties for new easement projects.
- Attend monthly staff meetings in Helena.
- Attend three overnight meetings/year.

- Some overnight travel is expected for distant easement visits, depending upon applicant's location.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in environmental science field preferred.
- Passion for and commitment to MLR's mission.
- Excellent writing skills.
- Exceptional interpersonal skills with the ability and personality to foster cooperative relationships and resolve or diffuse conflict.
- Knowledge of natural resources in southwestern Montana landscapes (ex. range, forestry, aquatic ecology).
- Competency in ArcGIS and GPS mapping technology. Able to produce natural resource inventory maps in ArcGIS and import/export geospatial data between desktop and mobile mapping devices.
- Ability to interpret aerial photography.
- Basic understanding of agricultural operations in southwestern Montana.
- Comfortable administering consistent compliance within a regulatory setting.
- Competency in natural resource inventory and report preparation (ex. wetland delineation reporting, NEPA documentation, regulatory permit preparation, forestry management planning).
- Comfortable and competent working independently.
- Valid driver's license and safe driving habits.

How to Apply

Email a cover letter and resume in PDF format to Will Trimbath at will@mtlandreliance.org with the subject heading "Southwestern Montana Land Steward: [Your Last Name]."

The application deadline is January 9, 2023. Please contact Will Trimbath, Stewardship Director, at 406.443.7027 or will@mtlandreliance.org with any questions. **MLR is an equal opportunity employer.**