



STAFF ENGINEER (E.I.T.) FULL-TIME

Farmers Conservation Alliance is a 501(c)(3) organization that operates at the intersection of agriculture, water, and energy. The Staff Engineer will help accelerate irrigation modernization efforts on behalf of irrigation districts, ditch companies, and agricultural producers across the West. An ideal candidate would enjoy and excel at working with staff and contractors to manage tasks, deliverables, budgets, and timelines associated with irrigation modernization planning, design, and permitting. They would also be passionate about developing solutions that benefit both agriculture and the environment.

WHEN YOU WORK WITH US, HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL FIND

Our staff of over 40 strategy consultants, funding specialists, technical professionals, and public policy experts believe that everyone can win – farmers, rivers, and communities. We formed 15 years ago to successfully bring an innovative fish screen technology to market. This farmer-developed technology, now known as the Farmers Screen, helps to keep fish and debris in rivers and out of water supplies.

Since that time, our work has expanded to include the Irrigation Modernization Program—an innovative program to help farmers and ranchers modernize all aspects of their water delivery systems. Staff work with water users, agencies, and organizations to design, finance, and implement large-scale solutions and technologies that improve water delivery systems, reduce operation and maintenance costs, and generate fish-friendly hydropower.

Our headquarters in Hood River, Oregon, inspires staff in both their professional and personal lives. Hood River's abundant apple, pear, and cherry orchards and salmon-bearing streams provide daily context for our work. And Hood River's one-hour commute to Portland provides staff with easy access to a regional transportation hub, facilitating travel to and from our headquarters.

SO THAT'S US. NOW ABOUT THE WORK

This is not your typical engineering position. An ideal candidate will have a passion for improving water management throughout the West. The candidate must be an innovative thinker with a proven track record for engineering design; someone who enjoys working with teams of people; and a person who is passionate about designing and implementing solutions that benefit both agriculture and the environment. Above all, an ideal candidate would be able to work with and develop relationships with people of all industries, backgrounds, and beliefs.

In a typical month, the Staff Engineer may work with staff and consultants to develop a hydraulic model to aid in pipeline design, collect data in the field, determine the hydropower generation potential of a system, calculate energy conservation potential of a piped and pressurized irrigation district and present project alternatives to FCA staff, management and project teams. At other times, the Staff Engineer may represent FCA at professional conferences, help develop presentations on FCA's programs and technologies, and/or write technical guides and articles. In addition, the Staff Engineer will be asked to support the development, design, design review, and construction of new and existing products and strategies. This position will be supported by two licensed professional engineers.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

- Design and develop modernized irrigation systems using EPANET, HEC-RAS, or similar software to model the system
- When considering piped modernized systems, accurately size pipe using the theory of incompressible flow in relation to flow rates and associated pressures, incorporate pressure reducing stations, and incorporate hydropower opportunities into the design
- Conceive and manage research and development projects using new technologies
- Prepare technical documents that describe comprehensive engineering plans, projects costs, energy conservation and production benefits, or otherwise to contribute to irrigation modernization strategies
- Travel to potential project sites and project installations to conduct field measurements, collect survey data, and/or perform project commissioning
- Provide technical drawings using AutoCAD or other drafting software (e.g., Sketch-up or SolidWorks)
- Perform geospatial analyses and develop informative maps using ArcGIS
- Participate in FCA staff work sessions
- Develop new tools for organizational efficiencies

A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE WOULD HAVE

- B.S. degree in Engineering or physical science and a minimum 2 years' experience in river restoration, irrigation infrastructure, hydropower, or municipal water systems
- Possess an E.I.T. certification
- Experience working with agricultural and/or environmental communities, organizations, and/or individuals
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to work alone and as part of a cohesive team
- Working knowledge of hydraulic modeling software and Microsoft Office Suite
- A valid driver's license and reliable transportation are required for this position.
- The ability to traverse uneven ground such as stream beds and agricultural fields

AN IDEAL CANDIDATE WOULD FURTHER HAVE

- Experience in the field of water resources and/or agricultural engineering or a similar discipline
- Working knowledge of EPANET, AutoCAD, ArcMap or ArcGIS Pro, and HECRAS
- Experience with one or more of the following:
 - Water diversion and/or irrigation system design and construction
 - Creating hydraulic grade lines through natural and man-made systems as well as man-made systems
 - Design and/or design review of stream restoration, fish passage, and/or fish screening projects
 - Hydropower system development and/or design review
- Comfort with delivering oral presentations (e.g. at conferences, small group meetings)
- Ability to interact with a broad range of people in a conference setting

INTERESTED? SOME FINE PRINT ABOUT JOINING OUR TEAM

We provide a competitive salary, vacation, health and dental insurance, and a retirement package. We also believe that happy staff deliver the best outcomes. As such, we provide flexibility for staff to spend time doing what they love. We have staff working remotely as part of our normal operations, and we are open to hiring team members who do not reside in Hood River. We will also look for the Staff Engineer to be in Hood River periodically to connect in person. We are an equal opportunity employer and value diversity. All employment is based on qualifications, merit, and business need; qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.

TO APPLY

To apply for the position of Project Manager, please submit an attached cover letter and resume to info@fcasolutions.org with "Staff Engineer" as the subject of the email. Please do not contact FCA staff directly about this position.

Applications should be addressed to:

Julie Davies O'Shea, Executive Director
Farmers Conservation Alliance
102 State Street
Hood River, OR 97031

Position is open until filled.