



## Conservation Specialist

The Elkhorn Slough Foundation (ESF) is a mature non-profit organization and an accredited Land Trust dedicated to conserving and restoring the Elkhorn Slough and its watershed.

The Conservation Specialist works under the direction of the Stewardship Director and will assist with the planning, project management, reporting and field work to support stewardship projects on ESF properties and conservation easements. Duties will include but are not limited to the following:

### Essential Duties and Functions:

- Work independently or in collaboration with the Land Steward on a range of land management projects which may include removal of invasive plants and animals using a variety of tools.
- Perform regular reconnaissance on ESF fee lands and maintain records of this activity.
- Help manage ESF Agricultural Land leases. Interact with farmers, farmworkers, ranchers, and regulators and maintain positive and effective working relationships.
- Assist with management of ESF-owned housing and buildings.
- Oversee work by contractors and labor crews to support stewardship and restoration projects.
- Lead and manage volunteer groups performing land management activities.
- Maintain computer files, maps, images and databases.
- Assist with creation of management plans, reports, budgets, and grant applications.
- Track spending and submit timely paperwork for all purchases made.
- Safely operate and maintain ESF trucks, tractor, trailer, equipment and tools

### Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree plus 3-5 years of experience with hands-on land stewardship and project management.
- Demonstrated knowledge of California's central coast native flora and fauna.
- Strong organizational and project management skills with a pragmatic approach to problem solving.
- Excellent communication skills with the ability to interact effectively with diverse personalities.
- Proficient with Word, Excel, Outlook, GIS and GPS computer programs and equipment.

### Preferred Qualifications:

- Competence with the Spanish language (oral and written)
- Experience with farming/ranching operations
- Experience working with endangered species

### Requirements:

- Ability to work independently and safely in the field and traverse rough terrain in potentially inclement weather conditions.
- Ability to efficiently manage multiple projects simultaneously.
- Ability to operate and maintain wide variety of field equipment including 4WD truck, tractor, ATV, mowers, and trailers as well as other power tools and hand tools.
- Must hold a valid California Driver's license and have a good driving record with a minimum of 3 years of driving experience.
- Must be able to lift and manage 50 lbs.
- Knowledge and ability to apply herbicide (possession of a Qualified Applicator Certificate desired, or willingness to obtain certificate upon hire)