



Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County
11769 Waterhill Rd., Lakeside, CA 92040
Phone: (619) 562-0096 ✉ Fax: (619) 562-4799
Website: www.rcdsandiego.org

Regional Agricultural Specialist
Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County

The Regional Agricultural Specialist will be responsible for engaging farmers, growers, and ranchers in carbon farming and healthy soils grant-funded programs; tracking and analyzing individual and cumulative benefits of implementation of carbon farming practices; and coordinating with soil health networks and other critical regional stakeholders on cumulative program benefits and outcomes. This work will be focused on the service areas of the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County (RCDGSDC), Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD), and the Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District (CVRCD). In the RCDGSDC's service area, the work will focus on supporting two carbon farming demonstration projects and implementing a new Sustainable Agriculture Lands Conservation planning grant; in IERCD and CVRCD service areas, the work is focused on the evaluation and advancement of carbon farming projects.

The Regional Ag Specialist reports to and serves under the direct supervision of the RCDGSDC Executive Director, but will also report to management staff at the IERCD and CVRCD. The Regional Ag Specialist's duties will include, but not be limited to, the responsibilities outlined below:

Responsibilities:

- Support soil health and conservation-focused land management in the service area of the RCD of Greater San Diego County through performance of at least the following:
 - Development and implementation of an outreach strategy for two current Healthy Soils Demonstration Projects in San Diego County, including (1) maintaining a database of farmer, rancher and stakeholder agency contacts; (2) setting a time-based work plan for communicating program activities; (3) coordinating workshops and other outreach events; and (4) creating informational and promotional brochures for soil health projects and events
 - Initiating and implementing carbon farm plans with our District.
 - Management of a program to identify and protect agricultural land in San Diego County.
 - Participation in monitoring and evaluation of program activities.
 - Supporting RCDGSDC staff with grant writing and reporting.
 - Supporting the development of partnerships to strengthen the RCD's healthy soils and agriculture programming.
 - Representing the RCDGSDC at meetings, advisory councils, and workshops in San Diego County.
 - Providing technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to support them with carbon farming practice implementation as needed.

- Support soil health and conservation-focused land management in the service area of the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District through performance of at least the following:

Conserving Our Natural Resources



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- In cooperation with the Program Manager, evaluate existing carbon farm plans and sites and create a workplan focused on advancement of soil health goals/objectives across all existing and potential sites.
- In cooperation with the IERCD Program Manager, contribute to sustainable agriculture/soil health-focused grant research, acquisition, and implementation.
- Support soil health and conservation-focused land management in the service area of the Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District through performance of at least the following:
 - In cooperation with the District Manager, evaluate existing carbon farm plans and sites and create a workplan focused on advancement of soil health goals/objectives across all existing and potential sites.
 - In cooperation with the District Manager, contribute to sustainable agriculture/soil health-focused grant research, acquisition, and implementation

Position Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree or higher in agriculture, natural resource management, environmental science, or a related conservation field.
- At least two years of professional experience in agriculture or a related field.
- Knowledge of soil science, farming systems, and land management practices that build soil health.
- Experience in organizing and facilitating educational events.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team – in the office and in the field.
- Experience working collaboratively and maintaining relationships with a range of partners, including landowners, researchers, and public agencies.
- Highly motivated, organized, and self-directing with the ability to prioritize workload to meet deadlines and goals to fulfill grant obligations.
- Strong oral and written communication skills.
- Strong computer skills, including for Microsoft, Outlook, and ESRI.
- Physically able to perform field work (climbing in and out of streams, lifting, carrying supplies and equipment, planting, etc.) during all seasons and some inclement weather.
- Commitment to the Resource Conservation District's mission to protect, conserve, and restore natural resources.
- Creativity, sense of humor, "can do" spirit, collegiality, flexibility, strong desire to learn.
- Valid CA driver's license and current auto insurance.

Preferred candidates will also possess the following:

- Experience working with farmers, ranchers, and growers in San Diego County or elsewhere.
- Experience writing conservation plans, carbon farm plans, or similar planning documents.
- Experience writing and managing grants.
- Bilingual in English and Spanish.

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Compensation and Benefits:

The RCDGSDC offers a competitive salary and benefits package:

- Full Time (40 hours)
- After successful completion of a 90-day probationary period:
 - Health insurance compensation in lieu of health care.
 - Participation in RCD 457 retirement plan.
 - Phone stipend of \$50 per month.
 - Ten paid holidays and thirteen days of paid time off (PTO) in your first year of service, rising to eighteen days after the first year.

To Apply

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and references to the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County at info@rcdsandiego.org with "Regional Agricultural Specialist" in the subject line by January 10, 2021. For additional information, please contact the RCD by phone at 619-562-0096 or visit our website at <http://www.rcdsandiego.org>.

The RCD is an equal opportunity employer. We consider qualified applicants for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, medical condition, disability, marital status, or protected veteran.