

JOB DESCRIPTION: ALUS PROJECT COORDINATOR

County of Vermilion River, AB

ALUS Description

ALUS (Alternative Land Use Services) is a delivery model for ecological goods and services for agricultural regions of Canada. ALUS is being demonstrated in 3 provinces and is a provincial program in PEI. ALUS provides financial incentives to reward agricultural producers for new and existing environmental services. It is community led and farmer delivered, and uses a voluntary and market driven system. An Alberta ALUS demonstration project was launched in the County of Vermilion River in 2010 and has grown on a number of fronts since then. Our intentions are to see ALUS adopted in other counties and ultimately across the province of Alberta. It is this growth that has necessitated the hiring of a full time coordinator.

Position Overview

As a member of the ALUS team in the County of Vermilion River, Alberta, the successful candidate will coordinate and conduct the work required to enable ALUS to continue to expand to meet its growing needs. The incumbent will work with agricultural producers delivering unique environmental demonstration projects. Of equal importance are the coordination, outreach and communication efforts to strengthen the capacity and awareness of ALUS. This position entails a significant business development component, wherein the incumbent will plan, manage and deliver opportunities to financially support the project from local businesses. In addition the coordinator will help with financial administration and organization of research/monitoring efforts. He/she will work collaboratively with the community to develop and deliver environmental solutions on working farms.

Key Responsibilities

Farm Demonstration Projects

- Work closely with producers to design and deliver new ALUS demonstration projects.
- Work with producers to ensure existing ALUS projects are maintained and enhanced.
- Develop and implement a diversity of environmental projects to showcase numerous services within and between participating farms.

Communications and Outreach

- Help communicate ALUS using various platforms for various audiences.
- Provide materials for ALUS website.
- Develop ALUS newsletters, signs, brochures, etc.
- Provide updates to project donors.
- Report progress and support opportunities for ALUS to the local business community
- Help broaden partnerships to include more groups interested in environmental issues on farmland.
- Work collaboratively with the PAC (Partnership Advisory Committee) to ensure the project is meeting the goals of the community.
- Help develop and deliver ALUS workshop being planned for 2012.

Business Development, Planning & Budgeting

- Develop financial support for ALUS in CVR through partnerships with local, and where feasible, provincial businesses.

- Work with development staff at Delta Waterfowl to identify new revenue opportunities for ALUS in CVR and Alberta.
- Write or assist in the preparation of project proposals for funding from a variety of sources.
- Prepare and manage grant proposals for new and existing funding sources.
- Help design a template for other counties interested in adopting ALUS.
- Help develop annual goals and objectives for ALUS.
- Assist in preparing support objectives for the local business community
- Plan events and tours to stimulate interest and support for ALUS in the local business community.

Other duties

- Work in collaboration with those conducting research/monitoring efforts to further understand and modify ALUS over time.
- Participate in the design and delivery of local market research for ALUS in CVR

Skills, attributes and experience

- University or college degree in environmental/agriculture studies.
- 2+ years experience in the wildlife or agricultural field.
- Business experience or training an asset.
- A passion for agriculture and wildlife and knowledge of conservation farming practices.
- Outstanding communication skills: outgoing personality with strong written and verbal skills; a persuasive public speaker and excellent listener.
- Highly professional, mature and confident.
- An ability to approach local businesses and individuals directly for ALUS support
- Accomplished relationship builder.
- Creative, innovative and resourceful.
- Sense of humor, with an energetic, positive attitude.
- Able to multi-task and handle multiple priorities with tight deadlines.
- A drive to succeed personally, and to support team success.
- Effective and collaborative team player; sharing information freely with staff and volunteers.

Working environment and compensation

- Normal working hours are Monday to Friday; 8 hours per day, 40 hours per week.
- Evening and weekend travel/work is common. The personal-time policy allows staff to take equivalent time off for weekend work.
- Reports to the Director of Conservation Policy, Delta Waterfowl.
- Compensation is commensurate with experience and education.
- Delta Waterfowl has a competitive benefits package.

How to apply: Please send cover letters and resumes in via email to Jim Fisher at deltawaterfowl@mac.com.