



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MANAGER

FULL- OR PART-TIME

Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization that operates at the intersection of agriculture, water, and energy. The Government Relations Manager will join our growing Government Relations team to coordinate the implementation of our advocacy program and ensure that the program helps to achieve our goals and objectives. An ideal candidate would enjoy and excel at building relationships with a broad range of community members, work well in an interdisciplinary team, and 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

The Government Relations Manager will work closely with the Executive Director and staff to implement FCA's government relations vision, objectives, and strategy in support of irrigation modernization efforts across the Western United States. They will build and maintain the relationships, particularly at the state and federal levels, needed to effectively realize that vision. And they will work closely with staff and contractors to facilitate modernization efforts, identifying opportunities and addressing challenges related to federal and/or state legislatures and agencies. In a given day, the Government Relations Manager may tour a potential project with an irrigation district, review communications materials related to a recently completed project, and facilitate a call with a Congressional staff member.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

- Implement FCA's government relations vision, objectives, and strategy and associated policy agenda
- Build and maintain relationships with current and potential partners such as agricultural producers, irrigation district staff and board members, elected officials, agency staff, funding partners, and non-profit organizations
- Monitor relevant federal and state legislative and administrative proposed actions, identify opportunities for and threats to organizational objectives, and facilitate any responses
- Provide government relations support to FCA staff and contractors to facilitate irrigation modernization planning, development, funding, permitting, and/or implementation efforts with irrigation communities
- Partner with FCA's Communications team in developing communications materials related to irrigation modernization efforts
- Manage staff and contractors as necessary to implement FCA's government relations vision, objectives, and strategy and associated policy agenda
- Participate in strategic, programmatic, and district-level discussions regarding organizational and district-specific objectives
- Serve as FCA's liaison to relevant trade associations and/or advocacy organizations
- Coordinate with FCA's Executive Director and staff to identify, measure, and communicate government relations-related outcomes
- Occasional travel to/within Oregon, other western states, and Washington, DC

A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE WOULD HAVE, AMONG OTHER ASSETS

- 5+ years of professional experience in public policy, campaigns, advocacy, or a relevant field
- Demonstrated success in building relationships with community members across a broad range of interests, particularly strong, bipartisan relationships with Congressional offices
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- The ability to work alone and as part of a cohesive team
- Demonstrated ability to manage multiple complex projects and deadlines effectively
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office suite
- Ability to travel to/within Oregon, other western states, and Washington, DC

AN IDEAL CANDIDATE WOULD FURTHER HAVE, AMONG OTHER ASSETS

- 2+ years of professional or academic experience in public policy, campaigns, advocacy, or a relevant field
- Knowledge of and/or experience with state and federal rules and regulations related to permitting and implementing irrigation modernization strategies
- Knowledge of and/or experience with state and federal funding programs related to irrigation modernization efforts
- Demonstrated ability to craft effective communications materials

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 Government Relations Manager 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 FCA Government Relations Manager, please submit an attached cover letter and resume to info@fcasolutions.org with "FCA Government Relations Manager" 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

TO APPLY

To apply for the position of FCA Natural Resource Specialist, please submit an attached cover letter, resume, and writing sample to info@fcasolutions.org with "FCA Government Relations Manager" 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