



Now Hiring: Operations Assistant

Work at an innovative ecosystem restoration company that serves landowners throughout Iowa.

Company Information

Prudenterra's mission is to empower landowners to strategically restore thriving, profitable perennials and maintain them for generations.

- 60% of our work is **prairie management**--mowing, seeding, spraying, and burning.
- 30% is **forest management**--thinning, planting, and timber sale administration.
- 5% is consulting services--**interpreting and evaluating ecosystems** for landowners and providing recommendations to achieve their goals and objectives.
- 5% is **innovative land management installations**--streambank restorations, wetland reconstruction, and swales for tree crop orchards or silvopasture.

Prudenterra is based out of Nevada, Iowa, and is owned by forester Luke Gran. The management team includes a full-time project manager, accounts manager, a part-time marcom manager, and part-time office administrator. Part-time operations crew members also assist in implementing and maintaining projects.

Operations Assistant

The position is 1 FTE (full-time equivalent). It may be filled by 1 full-time employee, or 2 part-time employees. Work must be completed in at least two full days during the regular work week Monday through Friday. It offers a semi-flexible schedule and an enjoyable and rewarding work environment. Reports to Project Manager, Annie Fangman, and starts as soon as schedule allows.

Job Requirements

- **Operating Equipment:**
 - Must have some experience operating chainsaws and be willing to hone skills and safety practices.
- **Working:**
 - Able to conduct physically demanding work, crouch over, and lift up to 50 pounds.
 - Work outside in seasonally variable conditions, and wear appropriate protective clothing.
- **Driving:**
 - Hold a valid driver's license, and have a good driving record.

- Able to commute in own vehicle to Prudenterra headquarters near Nevada, Iowa.

Duties and Responsibilities

- **Conduct projects** as described in estimates which includes:
 - **Prescribed burns:** Burn grasslands and woodlands safely with prescribed fire techniques (backfire, flank fire, wet line) as leader of burn crew.
 - **Seeding:** Seed prairie with broadcast seeder and no-till drill seeder.
 - **Tree planting:** Place container-grown and bare-root nursery stock trees and shrubs into the earth at the proper depth, spacing, and diversity by hand and with the aid of a machine planter.
 - **Mowing:** Mow with rotary cutter mounted on a tractor and a riding lawnmower.
 - **Chainsaw operation:** Perform woodland or prairie management as marked by forester.
 - **Herbicide application:** Mix and apply herbicides safely around tree/shrub seedlings, on cut stumps and on trunk girdles with backpack sprayer or handheld spray bottle. Prepare larger sites with broadcast spray of herbicide with a small boom sprayer.

Skills Required

- **Work well with others:** Effective and direct communicator. Welcoming and friendly to clients, and a good team member. Able to communicate via text, email, and online server.
- **Reliable:** Punctual, dependable, organized. Highly motivated and self-directed, whether working independently or collaboratively.
- **Mindful of Equipment and Safety:** Treats equipment with appropriate care and caution to ensure that it will be long-lasting. Aware of surroundings at all time to ensure the safety of all crew members.

Other Useful Skills

- **Botanical Identification:** Learn to identify common species by bark and buds. Common name by genus is sufficient--i.e. hickory, oak.
- **Equipment Maintenance:** Clean, maintain, and repair small tools and equipment such as small engine chainsaws, pole saws, and weed trimmers of various makes and models (Stihl 192/193, 261MC, 362, etc.), as well as a 45 hp tractor and small electric vehicle.

Useful Certifications

- **Pesticide Application:** Iowa Commercial Certified Pesticide Applicators' License Core Manual as well as Forest Pest Add-on, Ornamental & Turf Add-on.
- **Prescribed Fire:** National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) S130 Fire Training Course.

Compensation

Starting hourly pay rate of \$10.00 - \$10.50 per hour. After 90-day training period, the employee has potential to earn up to \$11.00 per hour depending on quality of work.

Mileage

Most travel to job sites is conducted in Prudenterra vehicles, but in cases when employees must drive a personal vehicle from Prudenterra headquarters to a job site, mileage is reimbursed.

Benefits

Workers' Compensation Insurance is provided in the event of a work-related injury or accident.

Start Date

As soon as schedule allows.

To Apply

Submit a cover letter and resume with three professional references to Annie Fangman, Project Manager at annie@prudenterra.com. Open until filled.