



Job Description

Senior Agricultural Policy Analyst

Rural Investment to Protect our Environment (RIPE) is seeking a senior policy analyst to design and refine a federal policy proposal to invest in farmers and the environment. RIPE seeks a self-motivated analyst with experience in agriculture economics and conservation program design. The analyst will be responsible for contributing to the development sound of federal-level policy through their own analysis, integrating feedback from supervisor and a farmer-led steering committee, and working with external technical consultants. If you are excited to use your policy expertise to achieve ambitious U.S. climate and sustainable agriculture policy with bipartisan support, this is the opportunity for you.

About RIPE

RIPE's mission is to inspire a bipartisan climate policy that allows farmers to earn a fair & profitable return on voluntary stewardship. Our vision, as a farmer-led organization, is to create a climate policy that farmers champion because it values our contributions to a wide set of environmental benefits, enables a profit opportunity from voluntary stewardship, helps farmers become more resilient, helps farmers keep their farms in their family, transforms environmental policy into a rural investment that benefits farmers and rural communities, and supports farmers in being good stewards of the land. Our slogan is "Creating farmers first-choice climate policy".

Key Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Sr. Policy Analyst include but are not limited to the tasks below. If you are skilled in some but not all of these tasks, we invite you to consider applying.

- Translate policy principles into tangible policy design for a conservation program proposal that rewards farmers with estimated values of stacked ecosystem services.
- Propose policy design options for designing payments to farmers that offer a stewardship incentive that goes beyond the cost of stewardship practices, beyond the cost of climate policy, and reflects the public value from those practices.
- Draw upon insights from USDA conservation programs including EQIP, CSP, and state-level conservation programs about a wide array of program design elements including farm management plans, red-tape cutting opportunities to improve efficient programs, quantification of environmental value, practicality and cost of best management practices.
- Conduct cost estimates on various policy design options.
- Work with technical experts – including economic consultants and university extension program partners – to refine policy design considerations.
- Develop partnerships with technical experts who can help inform policy design questions.
- Propose multiple policy design options with pros and cons that address stakeholder needs, economic considerations, practicality, and policy precedent.

- Research and analyze current similar or competing proposed federal law, regulation, and policy regarding climate intervention, sustainable agricultural practices, conservation policy, and/or federal tax credit and bond design.
- Track and analyze relevant government and policy documents, including regulation and other agency guidance, as well as academic and policy research to inform policymaking.
- Analyze complex data and identify best methods for distilling and presenting the results.
- Write and edit a variety of documents ranging from detailed reports and policy briefs to memoranda and blog posts.
- Participate and lead in analysis and learning sessions with the broader RIPE community.
- Brief and provide technical assistance to stakeholders, including RIPE leadership committees, congressional and agency staff, eNGO partners, and other audiences.
- Identify trends in and policy implications of specific topics as assigned or self-identified.
- Identify strategic opportunities for advocacy with relevant stakeholders.

Skills, Abilities, & Qualifications

- Five or more years of experience in agricultural conservation program and policy design.
- Creative thinker who can draw upon precedent and design new policy.
- Practical, diplomatic, willingness to put farmers-first in all policy design considerations.
- Motivated to work in a small, evolving organization and be part of a multi-disciplinary team.
- Self-sufficient, independent, and eager to learn.
- Excellent organizational skills with ability to manage diverse projects simultaneously, solve problems creatively. and produce deliverables quickly and efficiently.
- Thorough, solution-seeking, and scientific.
- Experience in managing an independent workstream in service of larger organizational efforts.
- Comfort working collaboratively with an openness to others' insights, opinions, and feedback.
- Strong research, writing, and verbal communication skills.

We provide a comprehensive compensation package, including competitive salary, excellent medical and dental benefits, retirement savings, and generous vacation and sick leave policy. All positions will be remote during the covid-19 pandemic and team meetings will be held in Eastern Standard time zone. After the pandemic, work will be conducted out of an office in Washington D.C. Northeast. For exceptional candidates, we will consider applicants who are outside of the Washington DC area.

Please apply by December 3. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis. We respectfully request no follow-up calls or emails. In your cover letter please describe your experience working as a policy analyst, specific policies you have worked on, and how you have creatively pursued bipartisan interest. Please include "Sr. Ag Policy Analyst" in the subject line. To apply, please email your resume, cover letter, and salary expectations to: Careers@riperoadmap.org

RIPE Roadmap is an independent operating project of the nonprofit umbrella organization, Multiplier, a nationally recognized nonprofit with a growing portfolio of innovative initiatives that conserve and protect a sustainable and resilient world (www.multiplier.org). RIPE is in the process of spinning off to an independent non-profit in 2020.

EEO STATEMENT:

Multiplier and RIPE Roadmap celebrate diversity and are committed to building teams and partnerships that represent a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and skills. Multiplier and RIPE Roadmap are also committed to providing an environment of mutual respect that is free from discrimination and harassment. Multiplier and RIPE Roadmap prohibit discrimination in its governance, programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, marital status, amnesty, status as a covered veteran, because all or part of an individual's income is derived from public assistance, or for any other non-merit based factors.