# Burns Paiute Tribe

## Steward (Land)

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| **Job Title:** | Steward (Land) |
| **Department:** | Emergency Management and Resiliency |
| **Reports To:** | Food Sovereignty Program Manager |
| **FLSA Status:** | Exempt, Full-time |
| **Opens:** | 8/7/26 |
| **Closes:** | Open till Filled |
| **Salary:** | GS 4/5 DOE |

## POSITION SUMMARY

In 2019, Burns Paiute Tribal members established a community garden to grow fresh, organic produce for the Tribal community. The Burns Paiute Tribe also has regular ceremonial hunts, gathering camps, and fishing events. Building on this, we established a Food Sovereignty Program in 2024, within our Emergency Management and Resiliency Department. Over the last year, our team has been developing a Food Sovereignty Plan which outlines projects and priorities, as determined by Tribal members through a series of collaborative workshops.

One of the primary next steps in the plan is to expand our food growing projects to several sites around the reservation and in the surrounding area. This Land Steward will work closely with the other Food Sovereignty team members to help implement and manage these projects. This will involve planting, weeding, pruning, harvesting, etc. Some of these sites will be more “agricultural” with gardens, high tunnels, annual crops, etc. Others will be more oriented to a restoration approach, planting Wadatika Paiute first foods and using traditional techniques for tending them. This position will also involve documenting and monitoring various experimental planting efforts, as well as testing the growth of first foods/medicines from seed in greenhouses. The Land Steward may also be asked to connect with volunteers and youth to help with planting and maintenance tasks.

The Land Steward will also be responsible for helping in our educational events. For community meals and workshops, our small team all pitches in to help with the planning, preparation, and cooking.

## DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Lead the implementation of planting projects and maintenance of our various food production sites.
2. Working closely with Food Sovereignty Planner on the development of landscape restoration and planting plans.
3. Work with other Tribal program staff (especially Natural Resources and Culture and Heritage) and Tribal Elders to guide culturally-appropriate techniques for plant and land stewardship.
4. Connect and collaborate with other Tribal Nations on best practices for growing and restoring first foods, medicines, and fibers.
5. Work with the Food Sovereignty team and Culture and Heritage to lead harvesting from these landscapes and distribution of food/medicines to Tribal community members.
6. Continually research examples of food sovereignty initiatives that could be used to help meet Tribal community needs and goals. Prepare recommendations for the potential use of such methods for the General Manager and/or Tribal Council.
7. Attend relevant training to network and learn about successful methods and best practices in food sovereignty, traditional ecological knowledge, etc.

## EDUCATION or EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree (BA or BS) in ecology, biology, plant sciences, food systems, or related field **OR** equivalent experience in land restoration, gardening or plant tending. (Required)
- Training or lived experience in Indigenous/Native Studies and working in Native communities (Required).
- Experience with restoration-related field work, including planting, plant maintenance, weed removal, pruning, etc.
- Knowledge of PNW first foods and native plants
- Previous community engagement or outreach experience (e.g., volunteering, canvassing, mutual aid, relationship-building, etc.) (Preferred).
- Strong oral and written communication skills, with the ability to effectively communicate with staff, tribal members, federal, state, local government officials, media, and the general public.
- Special consideration will be given to the candidate with demonstrated Tribal food systems experience. (Preferred)

## OTHER DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Ability to travel out of town for meetings and trainings.
- Proficient computer and writing skills.
- Ability to work independently and with teams.
- Physical Ability to perform essential job functions including, but not limited to, sitting for extended periods of time, stranding, walking, stooping/bending, pushing/pulling (approximately 20 lbs.), lifting (approximately 30 lbs.) and climbing stairs.

## INDIAN PREFERENCE

Indian preference will be given to candidates showing proof of enrollment in a federally recognized tribe. In the absence of Indian applications meeting the qualifications as listed above, all applicants not entitled to or who fail to claim Indian Preference, will receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, political preference, age, religion, or national origin.

**Successful Candidate must:**

- Submit to, and pass a drug test
- Agree to a criminal background check
- Sign confidentiality clause
- Be insurable to operate tribal vehicles (3-year clean driving record)

## HOW TO APPLY:

Return **1)** completed Burns Paiute Tribe Application, **2)** cover letter, **3)** resume/CV, and **4)** educational transcripts to:

Human Resources Director
100 Pasigo Street
Burns, OR 97720

Telephone: 541-573-8013
Fax: 541-573-2323
Email: hr@burnspaiute-nsn.gov

Application for employment available at 100 Pasigo Street, Burns, OR 97720 Monday - Friday 8-5pm or request one via email: hr@burnspaiute-nsn.gov.

Job Application: BPT Application

****ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED****