



LAND & LIVESTOCK APPRENTICE

POSITION PURPOSE:

Work with the Land & Livestock team in all aspects of managing TomKat Ranch. Participate in a variety of activities that provide on-the-job training and instruction in regenerative agriculture; learn the practical and theoretical aspects, mission, and goals of TomKat Ranch (TKR) and LeftCoast GrassFed (LCGF).

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

This position is for people interested in gaining experience in regenerative agriculture and working with cattle or other livestock to improve the productivity and resilience of the land. The Apprentice will be expected to develop his/her knowledge and skills to progress his/her career in regenerative agriculture and take part in activities, meetings, and events at the ranch to further that pursuit.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED:

Receives direct supervision from the Ranch Manager or his/her delegate as appropriate. Position exercises no supervision. S/he must maintain high standards of efficient, ethical, and professional operation for the well being of the Ranch's staff, facilities, land, animals, and resources.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES – *the duties described below are provided as examples and are not meant to be an exhaustive or all inclusive list:*

- Assist in managing cattle and other livestock including herding in pastures and corrals; vaccinations and treatments; loading and hauling; feeding; building fences for cattle and grassland management.
- Assist with planned grazing program including developing skills to create and adjust grazing plans, collecting and analyzing monitoring data, and managing the health of pastures, soils, and animals.
- Assist with general ranch management: building and maintaining water systems, fencing, infrastructure; operating and maintaining ATVs, tractors, equipment, and facilities, landscape, and road maintenance.
- Assist with farmers' markets; preparing and transporting supplies; setting up booths; interacting with customers, and selling products.
- Participate in education and outreach programs to introduce visitors to concepts, operations, and activities at the Ranch.
- Assist with on-site events.
- May perform research of professional journals, papers, and experiments; assist in writing research reports; assist experiments and/or research projects.
- May attend conferences and/or visit other ranches to expand knowledge of related subjects in regenerative agriculture.
- May work in gardens including working with soil, weeding, planting, and harvesting.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge: Basics of regenerative agriculture, holistic management, caring for livestock; principles of research, editing, writing, teaching, advocacy, sales or business.

Skill: Work with livestock, grazing management, planning, research, ecology; operate farm tools, equipment and vehicles, computers.

Ability: Apply knowledge and experience to Ranch activities; learn to work with cattle including pasture and grazing methods; learn concepts, operations, activities and goals of Ranch, establish and maintain positive, cooperative and effective relationships, communicate effectively both orally and in writing to colleagues and visitors.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING GUIDELINES:

A combination of experience, training, knowledge, skills, and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge, skills, and abilities include:

Education: A Bachelor's degree with coursework in natural resource management, environmental science and policy, earth sciences, agriculture, animal science or equivalent.

Experience: Experience in ranch or farm work, outdoor education, ecology, land planning, food systems, or business management.

License or Certificate: Must possess a class C California Driver's License in good standing.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment:

Ability to perform ranch related duties including: 10+hour days (as needed) in winter and summer outdoor conditions; considerable amount of physical effort to hike on steep terrain, stoop, crouch, climb, and lift in performance of assigned duties; ability to work around animals, farm tools, electric and barb wire fences and equipment in a safe manner; subject to outdoor working conditions including exposure to dust, noise, heat, cold, poison oak, brush, ticks; ability to recognize and work safely around hazards associated with ranching, ability to travel to different sites and locations.