

# FULL SERVICE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER – NORTHEAST REGION (CONTRACTOR)

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## A Bit About Us

Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture and the Environment (WNC) is a regenerative farm, education, research and visitor center in Coastal Maine focused on a local, regional and increasingly national mission to transform our relationship with farming and food for a healthier planet. Wolfe's Neck Center is leveraging funds from their recently-awarded United States Department of Food and Agriculture (USDA) Partnership for Climate-Smart Commodities (PCSC) grant program to scale the implementation of climate-smart agriculture.

In order to achieve this goal, WNC is seeking to contract with a qualified Technical Assistance Provider (TAP) in the Northeast Region to aid farmers and ranchers in this transition. Under the direction of the RMPM, the TAP will be focused on developing and carrying out Farm Projects, which are individual projects associated with an FSA-registered agricultural operation where project activity will take place. The states in this region currently include MA, NJ, NY, PA, MA, ME, NH, VT, and will likely expand to MD, VA and NC.

## **Position Overview**

The Full Service Technical Assistance Provider is a contractual position managed by the Northeast Markets Program Manager (RMPM). The TAP is expected to complete all required training and work independently to carry out the Farm Project work plans, communicating impediments or other support needs to the RMPM as they arise.

TAP will be focused on three primary workstreams for WNC: 1) climate-smart ag practice implementation assistance; 2) farm data collection, and; 3) soil carbon modeling, measurement, reporting and verification (MMRV).

TAPs are expected to onboard and manage 20 Farm Projects in 2024. WNC will compensate TAPs for up to 3 inperson visits to each farm or ranch project over the course of their contract with WNC; the majority of the duties below will be supported remotely. Billable hours are not required to be evenly divided by year; it is expected that each farm project will require more up-front time in year one to achieve project deliverables.

# **Primary Responsibilities**

- 1. Practice Implementation Assistance
  - a. Assist farmers/ranchers to select the appropriate eligible conservation practice standards (CPS) for their operation
  - b. Assist farmers/ranchers to implement CPS to specifications, including preparing grazing plans
  - c. Assist farmers/ranchers to identify supporting materials (i.e. seeds, compost) and equipment to implement their project
- 2. Data Collection
  - a. Work within the data collection templates provided by WNC to collect necessary data for the following project partners: USDA, Zero Foodprint, Point Blue, RegenScore, and Permanent

#### 3. MMRV

- a. Participate in training (in-person/hybrid) hosted by Point Blue Conservation Science to implement soil testing protocols
- b. Implement Point Blue Range-C and/or Crop-C protocol which includes:
  - i. Creating a sampling plan (i.e. completing questionnaires, collecting sampling supplies, etc.)
  - ii. Executing protocol on-site (i.e. taking soil samples)
  - iii. Organizing and sending soil samples to lab
  - iv. Assisting with soil analysis data entry
  - v. Compiling producer report
- c. Utilize greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting tools such as COMET Planner to quantify carbon sequestration
- 4. Ensure farmers/ranchers submit payment requests and necessary documentation correctly and in a timely manner

## **Qualifications**

- Experience in crop and/or ranching agriculture
- Experience in natural resource concerns related to soil health on farms
- Strong motivation to work in climate-smart/regenerative agriculture, including but not limited to holding related certifications or licenses
- Strong verbal and written communication
- Ability to work independently
- Strong organizational skills
- Knowledge and experience working with computers. Ability to type and use Microsoft Office programs, including Word, Excel and Google Suite.
- Flexibility to travel to perform selected duties on-farm (i.e. planning, MMRV, implementation support)

# Compensation

This is a contractor position with a contract term of 3 years. Expected total compensation is \$209,500. Compensation is paid monthly according to standardized invoice pertaining to Farm Project progress, training participation, and approved travel expenses. Additional compensation will be offered commensurate with other optional opportunities.

## To Apply

To apply, please submit the following documents via email to Hannah Tikalsky, Director of Network Development for Environmental Markets at <a href="https://ht

### **Non-Discriminatory Selection Process**

Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment, in accordance with federal Equal Opportunity laws, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, sexual orientation including gender identity or expression, veteran status, or physical or mental disability in the hiring of its employees. Applicants are selected based on their ability to perform the essential functions of the job, prior work experience, and references from previous employers.