



Fozzie's Farm Apprenticeship

Position Description

Montezuma Land Conservancy (MLC) seeks to hire local youth to work at Fozzie's Farm to support our farm management projects. MLC is a private, not-for-profit, accredited conservation organization established in 1998 by a group of local citizens concerned about the rapid loss of agricultural lands and open space in southwestern Colorado. MLC completed its first conservation easement in 1999 and has since protected over 50,000 acres of farm and ranch land, wildlife habitat, and scenic open space across three counties.

Fozzie's Farm was donated to MLC in 2016 and is protected forever with a conservation easement. Located 12 miles north of Cortez at 19760 Road W in Lewis, Colorado, the farm encompasses 83 acres of irrigated pastures, hay fields, and wildlife habitat. It remains in agricultural production, supports biodiversity, and models soil and water conservation practices. In 2019 construction was completed on the new Education Center, which provides modern facilities for school field trips, community workshops, retreats, and private events. Since 2017, the farm has served as the hub for community programs and has hosted over 4,000 youth, adults, and families.

We seek motivated, dependable, and responsible people to join our small team with a big vision. Apprentices will engage in community programs and participate in various public and peer-to-peer outreach events in conjunction with the MLC staff. Through direct instruction and hands-on experience, apprentices will learn about soil health practices, water conservation, rotational livestock grazing, ecology, and cross-cultural land stewardship. Apprentices will also take part in career education and exploration in the above and related fields.

Montezuma Land Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected status, or any other characteristic protected by law. Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and others who identify as nonwhite, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community are strongly encouraged to apply.

Duties

- Complete farm management tasks under the supervision of staff, which may include the following:
 - Irrigation
 - Weed management

- Light construction
- Fence building and repair
- Biodiversity and wildlife habitat projects
- Assist staff with education programs and volunteer work days

Position Requirements

- Strong interpersonal communication skills
- Ability to follow directions and take initiative to complete assigned tasks
- Valid driver's license or reliable transportation to and from the farm
- Successful completion of Apprenticeship Orientation
- Ability to lift 25 lbs

Preferred experience

- Agriculture, food production, grazing management, soil and water conservation practices, irrigation, construction
- Speaks multiple languages

Additional Information

- Reports to MLC's Community Programs Manager
- Hourly wage of \$17.00, paid twice monthly
- Approximately 20 hours per week for the months of June through September 2024.
- Flexible scheduling with some weekend and evening hours required
- Personal protection equipment and all necessary tools are provided

To apply, please complete the application form online or by returning by mail or email to Fozzie's Farm by May 14th, 2025.

- Online application link: <https://montezumaland.org/about-us/join-our-team/>
- Mail to Montezuma Land Conservancy
PO Box 1522
Cortez CO 81321
- Email to aidan@montezumaland.org

If you have questions, please contact Aidan Gaughran, Community Programs Manager: 970-516-0304