



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Grazing Organizer

Published: July 18, 2022

Proposal Submission Deadline: September 5, 2022

Anticipated Start Date: Immediate

Location: Remote; Must be a resident of Illinois; Some travel required

Term: 12-month contract with option to renew based on performance review (funding secured for 36-months); LOE estimated at 50% FTE

Compensation: \$35,000-\$45,000 depending on experience

The Illinois Grazing Lands Coalition (GLC) seeks to hire a contractor to assist in the development and implementation of the [Roadmap for Expanding Regenerative Grazing in Illinois](#) work plan and the general operations of GLC. The Roadmap's key outcome is to transition 40,000 acres of Illinois farmland to regenerative grazing management by 2025. Regenerative grazing practices have financial benefits for farmers and are an excellent way for farmers to become more sustainable. This position will assist Illinois graziers with access to technical support; coordinate activities and promote the GLC and regenerative grazing activities throughout the state; address the gap in farmer knowledge and experience with regenerative grazing; continue to network and identify partnership opportunities and grow the relationships GLC has with current partners; and secure ongoing funding for GLC activities.

Organization

GLC is a 501(c)(5) nonprofit dedicated to promoting grazing throughout the state of Illinois. GLC was formerly known as the Illinois Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI). The organization was founded in the early 2000s as a small, volunteer-based grazing advocacy group and is best known as the Illinois co-organizers of the annual Heart of America Grazing Conference.

In 2021, GLC collaborated with the Wallace Center and the Illinois Statewide Regenerative

Grazing Working Group to become the grazing champion organization for the state and to take the lead in the implementation of the [Roadmap for Expanding Regenerative Grazing in Illinois](#).

Position Responsibilities

The Grazing Organizer will lead the development and implementation of a 3-year plan of work for implementing the Roadmap for Expanding Regenerative Grazing in Illinois (the Roadmap). The Organizer will facilitate the general work of GLC in all of its programming including connecting Illinois graziers with technical assistance and supporting organizations and institutions to learn more about grazing.

Scope of Services

- Develop a 3-year plan of work for implementing recommendations in the “Roadmap”
- Assist current and prospective graziers to access technical support
- Coordinate/facilitate the Working Group activities such as grazing schools and pasture walks
- Promote GLC and grazing activities throughout the state; Present at meetings for various associations
- Identify partnership opportunities and follow-up with current partners to report program activities
- Support the capacity of other organizations in learning more about grazing
- Identify and secure ongoing funding for implementation of the Roadmap, GLC work plan, and technical support for graziers
- Manage grants; plan, develop proposals, submit, and complete reporting requirements
- Meet regularly with GLC leadership team; collaborate closely with GLC membership
- Submit monthly progress reports to president of GLC

Qualifications

- Grazing knowledge, particularly in regenerative/adaptive/intensive rotational practices
- Established relationships with members of the agricultural community in Illinois
- Experience developing and leading workshops/webinars/field days for agriculture-based education
- Experience leading diverse coalition of stakeholders, desired
- Ability to fundraise through multiple channels including grant writing and sponsorships

Knowledge & Skills

- Creating and managing grants for short- and long-term funding
- Ability to foster cooperative work environment within a complex partnership/organizational structure
- Convening, communicating, and negotiating effectively with partners and stakeholders
- Developing partnerships and leading collaborations within the private and public sectors
- Proficient with standard office technical applications such as email, Microsoft Suite, and G Suite

Specifications

- Independent contractor position
- Remote position; must reside in Illinois
- Reports to president of GLC board
- Contractor must provide own office space, computer, phone, internet, and office supplies
- Legal status to work in the U.S.
- Valid driver's license
- Travel required: must provide own means of transportation with appropriate reimbursements provided

Proposal Submission

To submit a proposal for this contract opportunity, please submit the following in pdf format by email to illinois.glc@gmail.com:

1. One-page letter of interest detailing how you would advance GLC's priorities and implement the scope of services for the position;
2. Resume;
3. Writing sample of not more than two pages (examples: blog entry, essay, white paper, pamphlet, etc.)

Proposal Review Process

GLC is committed to a thorough and objective review of all qualifying proposals. All submitted proposals will be reviewed and ranked by a hiring committee composed of members of the board of directors. Candidates of interest will be invited to interview by Zoom. Consideration will be given to the following criteria, which are not necessarily exhaustive:

1. Qualifications and experience
2. Quality of the proposal
3. Demonstrated commitment to regenerative agriculture, with emphasis on grazing

Contact Information

Applicants are encouraged to ask questions and learn more about the scope of work prior to submission.

Angela Grapperhaus, GLC Administrator | illinois.glc@gmail.com