



The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) John Day Oregon Field Office, located in [Grant County Oregon](#) will soon be advertising for the following position:

**Soil Conservationist GS - 0457 - 05/07/09**

This is an outreach notice for recruitment. The official job announcement will be posted on the [USAJOBS](#) website. This position will be flown through USAJOBS and may be included in an announcement with many other locations across the country and state. Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to have an active USAJOBS account and required documentation uploaded before the announcements come out. Within the USAJOBS web site, job searches can be saved and setup to provide daily updates on new job postings.



Canyon Mountain

Strawberry Mountain

Interested applicants are encouraged contact the District Conservationist for more information:

**Aaron Roth**  
USDA-NRCS  
District Conservationist  
541-575-0135 ext. 113  
[aaron.roth@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.roth@usda.gov)

**Come work for NRCS where we strive to “Help People Help the Land”**

Since 1935, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (originally called the Soil Conservation Service) has provided leadership in a partnership effort to help America's private landowners and managers conserve their soil, water, and other natural resources.

NRCS employees provide technical assistance based on sound science working directly with the landowners to develop a Conservation Plan. NRCS provides financial assistance for many conservation activities as directed by the Farm Bill.

Oregon NRCS is leading the way in it “Strategic Approach to Conservation” by promoting localized priorities and input to direct funding efforts to specific project locations. Working



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alongside multiple partners and landowners, conservation projects big and small are getting on the ground. For additional information on work being done in Oregon visit the [Oregon NRCS Website](#)

In Grant County the field office provides financial and technical assistance for many conservation activities. Current projects are focusing on juniper cutting/piling, aspen restoration, forest thinning to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, irrigation improvement projects, and livestock water development to help producers deal with limited water during years of drought and provide a water source away from streams. For additional information on projects and partners in Grant County visit the [Grant County NRCS Website](#)

The successful candidate will work directly with the District Conservationist to implement Conservation Plans on the ground. Time will be spent in the field identifying resource concerns, developing contract paperwork and the Conservation Plan, working with GIS to develop maps, marking out project boundaries, and certifying the work when the project has been completed.

### **Grant County Information**

The John Day Service Center is nestled among the majestic Blue Mountains of Oregon, encompassing more than a million and a half acres of wilderness, grasslands, forest and riparian ecosystems. The John Day River Valley affords unique opportunities for quality of home life, recreation, personal development, and rewarding work assignments.

Blue Mountain Hospital in John Day is staffed with a full complement of physicians, a surgeon, a physician's assistant, and support personnel. A rural residency program provides the pipeline to recruit new physicians and the high quality of life retains them. A major expansion of the Grant County Hospital was completed in 2003.

Elementary, Middle School, and High School levels of education are locally available with around 750 students enrolled from grades K-12. Eastern Oregon University, Blue Mountain Community College, and the EDNET communications network provide excellent nearby secondary education opportunities. Extension service courses are offered regularly and in-service training, guest speakers and detail opportunities are provided and encouraged.

Schools, health care, hotels, hardware stores, shopping, and government services are all locally available. John Day lies at the head of the John Day River Valley, the last major undammed tributary of the Columbia River. The area offers unlimited outdoor recreational opportunities including hunting (elk, deer, and upland birds), fishing, hiking, mountain biking/cycling, camping, beautiful scenery, winter sports such as cross country and back country skiing or snowmobiling. It offers wide open, uncrowded spaces for those seeking peace and solitude.

The upper John Day River Valley is home to the majority of the 8000 residents of Grant County. John Day/Canyon City constitutes the primary population "center" (est. Population 2500) and county seat. It is a full service community with a hospital, medical and dental offices, elementary, junior high and high school, restaurants, motels, Bed and Breakfasts, city swimming



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pool and historical museums. There is a County airport with a local flying club, fairgrounds, 4-H opportunities, soccer, baseball, and softball leagues.

The closest urban centers include Baker City, Oregon (1 1/2 hours northeast), La Grande, Oregon (2 hours northeast), Bend, Oregon (3 hours west), Boise, Idaho (3 hours east) and Pendleton, Oregon (3 hours north).

For more information on the area, you may contact the Grant County Chamber of Commerce at: (541) 575-0547 or visit their website - <http://www.gcoregonlive.com/>