

Position Profile

Executive Director | Tyonek Tribal Conservation District | Headquartered in Anchorage, Alaska

The Position: Executive Director

Tyonek Tribal Conservation District (TTCD) seeks a community-minded conservation leader to serve as its next executive director. The incoming leader has the opportunity to build on a strong foundation and further advance TTCD's successful efforts to support subsistence and sustainability in the 6.6 million acre conservation district. The incoming leader will engage and partner with the Tyonek community and District, while establishing solid partnerships to conserve, enhance, and encourage the stewardship of natural resources. This opportunity requires a leader with experience creating and maintaining complex partnerships and an ability to balance organizational priorities with priorities of partners and community. The ideal candidate will have a passion for conservation, nonprofit experience, and an appreciation for Alaska Native culture and values.

The Organization

The Tyonek Tribal Conservation District is a non-regulatory, nonprofit 501c3 organization that addresses local issues through community-led conservation. The District serves diverse stakeholders and their geographic focus includes the Native Village of Tyonek, Tyonek Native Corporation lands, private lands, and lands within Alaska Game Management Unit 16b. Headquartered in Anchorage, Alaska, TTCD has work locations in both Anchorage and the Tyonek/Beluga region. TTCD was formed in 2005 as the first Tribal Conservation District in Alaska and the thirty-first in the nation. The creation of TTCD was made possible through a mutual agreement between the Native Village of Tyonek, Tyonek Native Corporation, and the United States Department of Agriculture. TTCD's mission is to conserve, enhance, and encourage the wise use of the natural resources meeting the needs of district stakeholders and fostering cooperative relationships.

TTCD hired its first staff member in 2011 and has since grown to 12 full- and part-time employees and numerous volunteers. With annual revenue of \$2.2 million, TTCD has collaborated on several conservation projects including moose habitat enhancement, the development of the Tyonek Garden, salmon habitat restoration through culvert replacements, conservation science education, and invasive species monitoring and control. A leader in its work, TTCD has gained state and national recognition for its efforts to support subsistence and sustainability.

Services and Programs

- **Habitat monitoring and restoration** restores fish and wildlife habitat through cooperative partnerships that strategically monitor natural resources and address natural resource concerns.
- **Tyonek Grown** partnership with the Native Village of Tyonek is an agricultural program aimed at enhancing food sovereignty and providing fresh organic vegetables to community members.
- **Technical Assistance** supports landowners to achieve their conservation goals.
- **Tyonek Youth Conservation Science** strives to incorporate youth education into all conservation projects, including coordinating regular hands-on science education at the Tebughna School.

Strategic Priorities

The TTCD Board updated their five-year strategic plan in 2018. The incoming executive director will partner with the board and staff in executing the plan focusing on the long-term priorities:

- Monitor and restore fish and wildlife habitat
- Improve food sovereignty through community agriculture
- Support sustainable practices through waste reduction and energy conservation
- Provide conservation education and outreach
- Continue to build and maintain a strong TTCD organization

Short-term Priorities

The incoming leader will be expected to focus on the following priorities over the first twelve to eighteen months:

- Engage and partner with Tyonek community and district, learning about TTCD and the Tyonek Community, and establishing solid relationships with stakeholders
- Establish strong relationships with the board and staff to ensure stability and sustainability of organization
- Strengthen current and build new partnerships to further the mission of TTCD
- Secure sustainable diverse funding sources
- In partnership with the board, review current strategic plan and set annual priorities aligned to fiscal budget

The Leadership Opportunity

The next executive director has the opportunity to continue to build on a strong foundation and further advance successful programmatic long-term growth. TTCD's founding executive director provided strong leadership for the last 9 years and left the organization with dedicated staff and volunteers who value an inclusive, family-first, collaborative culture. Key to the organization's success has been strong and diverse community partnerships. The incoming leader will further strengthen these relationships with Native and non-Native community members and partners across the state. In partnership with the board, the incoming executive director will seek out and secure diverse funding opportunities, including prioritizing 2022 grants pursuits in alignment with long-term strategic direction.

Key Responsibilities

The executive director is instrumental in leading the Tyonek Tribal Conservation District and oversees its day-to-day administrative operations. Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Support the mission of Tyonek Tribal Conservation District to conserve, enhance, and encourage the wise use of the natural resources meeting the needs of district stakeholders and fostering cooperative relationships
- Provide visionary and strategic leadership while translating that vision into measurable strategies and concrete actions, ensuring a commitment to conservation in all activities
- Lead, develop, and support high-performing staff
- Develop and expand strategies for sustainable funding
- Promote positive communication and strong working relationships with Native Village of Tyonek, Tyonek Native Corporation, and state, local, federal and private partners
- Promote positive communication and strong working relationship with the board of directors

- Provide leadership, management, and oversight of the following: programs, personnel, benefits, finances, activities, public relations, marketing and facilities
- Oversee the business operations of the organization and ensure fiscal responsibility and security, including grants management
- Provide oversight and coordination of multiple large-scale, community-led projects

Qualifications and Attributes of the Ideal Candidate

While no one candidate will embody all the qualifications and attributes enumerated below, the ideal candidate will possess many of the following professional and personal abilities, attributes and experiences:

- Supportive, flexible leader that fosters collaborative decision-making and a family-first environment
- Experience building and maintaining lasting relationships and partnerships
- Experience working with sciences, natural resource management, fisheries and/or related fields
- Appreciation for Alaska Native culture and values; Tyonek knowledge and experience preferred
- Nonprofit management experience
- Ability to balance organizational priorities with priorities of partners and community
- Grants and contract management experience
- Financial management experience with comparable budget size
- Familiarity with large-scale community development and planning
- A team player that is respectful in all encounters and interactions
- Passion for and background or experience in conservation
- Experience partnering with a board of directors

Application Process

The salary range is \$80,000 to \$95,000 annually, commensurate with qualifications and experience. Tyonek Tribal Conservation District provides competitive benefits. To apply, email your credentials to TTCDsearch@forakergroup.org. Applicants should include a resume and cover letter describing interest and qualifications. For questions, contact Allison Fong, lead recruiter, at TTCDsearch@forakergroup.org. Communications will be treated in confidence and resumes will be accepted until position is filled. Resume reviews begin immediately.

Tyonek Tribal Conservation District is committed to creating a diverse environment and is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age or veteran status. TTCD is especially interested in candidates whose background and experience have prepared them to grow to our commitment to engagement and inclusion with culturally diverse audiences.