



# SUN RANCH, LLC

**Position Announcement:** Cowboy/Ranch Hand

**Announcement Date:** July 5, 2012

**Ranch Description:**

The Sun Ranch is located in the upper Madison River Valley of southwestern Montana, about 30 miles south of Ennis. The Sun encompasses approximately 25,000 acres of deeded land and grazing leases. The ranch is committed to conservation and improving the health of the land for wildlife and livestock through progressive management.

The Sun's livestock operation seasonally grazes yearlings, spayed heifers, pairs, and replacement heifers for income and to improve wildlife habitat. The grazing season is carefully planned, taking into account the forage resources required for wildlife and using cattle impact to improve the quality of forage for other species. Because the ranch is such a wildlife corridor, many of the old barbed wire fences have been removed and much of the ranch is unfenced. Therefore, temporary electric fence, "let-down" high-tensile wire fence, and herding are used to achieve grazing objectives.

**Duration:** : July 15-October 31, 2012

**Experience Gained through this Position:**

1. Forming and Executing a Grazing Plan: Using Holistic Management Principles
2. Grazing management of riparian areas
3. Ranching with predators
4. Using cattle as a tool to enhance wildlife habitat
5. Waterline management
6. Extensive use of temporary electric fence to achieve grazing objectives
7. Rangeland health and utilization monitoring
8. Using herding to manage grazing on National Forest allotments
9. Pasture doctoring cattle
10. Collaborative landscape scale partnerships
11. Additional projects based on the successful candidate's interest

**The successful candidate must have the following personal qualities:**

1. Initiative
2. Self-motivation, self-starting
3. Openness to new ideas and non-traditional techniques of ranch management
4. Collaborative mindset: a team player
5. Eagerness to learn
6. Attention to detail

7. Common Sense
8. Adaptability
9. Gumption

**The successful candidate must have the following work related skills and abilities:**

1. Strong horsemanship skills, ability to ride long hours in rough terrain
2. Livestock handling experience
3. Animal husbandry
4. Ability to ride ATV
5. Walking, hiking several miles in a day
6. Ability to lift at least 50 pounds
7. Willingness and ability to work long hours and do rigorous physical work
8. Roping/Doctoring ability
9. Fencing Experience
10. Waterline maintenance

**Compensation:**

1. Competitive salary
2. Housing available

**Contact Information:**

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