

Barker Ranch – Duck Club/Ranch Foreman - 2024

The Barker Ranch (TBR) is a world class 2,000+ acre private duck hunting club located in West Richland, Washington. The ranch has over 30 irrigated food plots, 100+ moist soil units, 140 duck blinds, over 225 water control structures and culverts, 30 miles of fences for cattle grazing, and 17 miles of open irrigation ditches. TBR is in the process of a long-term restoration project to enhance wetland and upland areas for ducks, geese, cranes, upland birds, and other wildlife species.

We are seeking to fill a **Duck Club/Ranch Foreman** position dealing with the duties stated below. This position is full-time with pay and benefits depending on experience level. The start date is flexible, but we are looking to fill this position with the right person as soon as possible. There is a possibility of future promotion upon satisfactory job performance.

TBR has new facilities which include a 150x50 shop, office, high speed internet, satellite TV, conference room, kitchen, restrooms, showers, and is located only minutes from a major population area with ample entertainment and social activities. A huge amount of outdoor recreational activities are found in the area with rivers and mountains a reasonable drive away. Temporary onsite RV housing may be available. To apply, please send a resume, or letter of job qualifications, and three references to barkerranch@frontier.com.

1. Ideal Candidate

- a. Passion for waterfowl and waterfowl hunting
- b. In-depth understanding of and adherence to waterfowl hunting rules and regulations
- c. Commitment to high quality ethical hunting
- d. Excellent work ethic
- e. Can follow directions from the TBR General Manager and Board
- f. Ability to be an effective team member and team leader
- g. Proficient in the operation and maintenance of farming and earthmoving equipment including ATV's, sprayers, trucks, excavator, bulldozer, roller, backhoe, tractors, rototiller, disk, packer, box scraper, dirt pan, seed drill, corn planter, mowers, and more
- h. Experience in:
 - i. Operation of GPS tractor and spray equipment
 - ii. Using laser levels for surveying
 - iii. Wetland management and waterfowl management
- i. 5+ years experience working in an agricultural and/or hunting club setting

2. Duties:

- a. Execute daily and weekly work plan in conjunction with GM
- b. Oversight of:
 - i. Equipment maintenance and maintenance logs
 - ii. Planting and irrigation of wildlife food plots, moist soil units, and miscellaneous habitat management
 - iii. Wetland restoration activities, including grading, moving dirt, and installing culverts and water control structures
 - iv. Daily inspection of water delivery and automation system
 - v. Delegation and supervision of summer technicians and other employees
- c. Operation of farm and heavy equipment
- d. Cleaning and maintaining irrigation ditches and water control structures
- e. Spraying noxious weeds and trees
- f. Building and maintaining duck blinds
- g. Data collection and entry on test plots, soil samples, etc.

- h. Patrolling roads for trespassers and vandals
- i. General yard and park maintenance
- j. Assisting the needs of Ranch shareholders
- k. Fill in as needed when GM is away

3. Must have the ability to:

- a. Physically work long hours in hot or inclement weather with the possibility of bugs, ticks, snakes, or other critters
- b. Supervise, motivate, and work along with subordinate employees
- c. Follow directions and complete a task on time and on budget
- d. Self-motivate
- e. Solve problems

4. Must:

- a. Have a valid driver's license
- b. Speak fluent English
- c. Submit to random drug and/or alcohol test

Employees have gotten a chance to speak with the following individuals on Ranch tours since 2018:

- Adam Putnam – CEO of Ducks Unlimited, Memphis, TN
- Terry Cosby – Chief of Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington DC
- Bill Northey – US Under Secretary of Agriculture, Washington DC
- Dan Newhouse – US Congressman, Washington DC
- Brad Bortner – Retired USFWS Chief of Migratory Birds, Washington DC
- Leonard Jordan – Former Chief of Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington DC
- Kevin Norton – Former Chief of Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington DC
- Derek Sandison – WA State Department of Agriculture Director, Olympia, WA
- Many biologists from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, USFWS, NWTF, etc.
- Financial advisors
- Many more

Quotes from Wetland and Waterfowl Icons about Barker Ranch

Dr. Leigh H. Fredrickson – “The Barker Ranch offers an example of some of the best food production and habitat conditions to provide resources for migrant and wintering waterfowl in the Pacific Northwest. For those interested in the nuances of effective land management for wetland resources and especially waterfowl, the management staff of the Barker Ranch offers a unique opportunity for the inexperienced to hone their skills in the many aspects of land management on private property with a unique hydrologic setting in a western floodplain.”

Brad Bortner – “Barker Ranch is one of the premier properties in the United States solely devoted to waterfowl management. Experience at Barker Ranch will expose employees to the cutting edge of waterfowl habitat management and all aspects of private land management.”

Dr. Brian Davis – “I knew the Barker Ranch was premier but it really only sunk in when I saw it personally. This is an absolute wetland and associated habitat mecca in the middle of mountain valley desert. The migrating and wintering waterfowl here are beyond impressive given the high quality wetland habitats. I would be very motivated to work here myself with Michael and his Barker Ranch team! It was tough to leave this beautiful place when my visit was over.

Michael Crowder
General Manager/Shareholder – Barker Ranch
President – National Association of Conservation Districts
barkerranch@frontier.com







