

Musk Ox Care Assistant

Location: Musk Ox Farm. 12850 E Archie Rd, Palmer AK 99654

Pay: \$17-\$21 an hour based on experience

Type: Full time

Shift and schedule

- 8-hour shifts
- Weekends and Holidays seldomly, as needed

Benefits

- Flexible schedule

Full Job Description

We are in search of an upbeat individual that is willing to work hard and learn about Musk Oxen. That person must also be patient and do well under stressful situations. The ideal candidate will assist in all aspects of herd management, ensuring the health and welfare of our animals while supporting fiber production and farm operations. This position will serve as second in command to the herd manager, assume responsibilities in her absence, and play a critical role in refining, and improving existing protocols to enhance efficiency, animal care, and farm productivity. This is a physically demanding job, being on your feet throughout the day, outside in unideal weather conditions. Weather varies greatly throughout the year, from -30F in January to temperatures as high as 80F and as low as 35F throughout the summer.

We have 73 musk oxen on about 75 acres of land. We promote gentle agriculture techniques. With this in mind, we need a confident individual that is not timid, but not too aggressive with the animals. You will be learning to work with these animals and will see that each has their own personality, which means you must act accordingly. Herd health is a main priority, must be able to give injections (IM & SubQ), and know basic husbandry techniques. You will be treating sick and injured musk ox when necessary. Socializing calves is a large priority every year to help our herd learn not be afraid of us, but rather respect us, to continue with our gentle herding approach. Will assist in daily record keeping of medications and feeding schedule. Basic duties include cleaning waters, stalls, pens, giving out hay, assist in day to day clean up and organization. Along with lots of time spent outside, rain, snow, wind, or shine.

Qualifications:

- Pursuing or holds a degree in Animal Science, Wildlife Biology, or a related field.
- Previous experience with ungulates (exotics preferred but not required).
- Highly motivated self-starter with a disciplined and proactive work ethic.
- Patient and resilient; not easily frustrated by the unpredictable nature of animal care.
- Exceptional ability to take, follow, and execute complex directions with precision.
- Maintains safety standards under pressure, whether working independently or as part of a team.

Please email your resume, cover letter and recommendations/references to Alyssa Allen at Alyssa@muskoxfarm.org