About The Land Institute:
The Land Institute co-leads the global movement for perennial, diverse, truly regenerative agriculture at a scale that matches the enormity of the intertwined climate, water, and food security crises. The Land Institute’s work, led by a team of plant breeders and ecologists in multiple partnerships worldwide, is focused on developing perennial grains, pulses and oilseed bearing plants to be grown in ecologically intensified, diverse crop mixtures known as perennial polycultures. The Institute’s goal is to create an agriculture system that mimics natural systems in order to produce ample food and reduce or eliminate the negative impacts of agriculture. Through transdisciplinary research and collaborations, we build learning communities to help society cross the threshold into diverse, perennial grain agriculture.

For more information, please visit www.landinstitute.org

About KernzaCAP:
KernzaCAP is a USDA Coordinated Agricultural Project grant to integrate nation-wide activities to launch the enterprise of the world’s first large-scale perennial grain crop called Kernza®. This highly interdisciplinary project is based at the University of Minnesota and includes six other universities and numerous other organizations and individuals representing a broad range of stakeholder groups including nonprofits, farmers, businesses and policy makers. The project includes research, education, and outreach/extension activities that fall within six core objectives: 1) advance germplasm and trait evaluation, 2) enhance agronomic and on-farm knowledge, 3) improve environmental quality, 4) engage education, extension and policy, 5) develop supply chains and economic drivers, and 6) activate transformative change through intentional integration. Further information is available on the project website, Kernza.org/kernzacap.

Position Summary:
The Land Institute and the University of Minnesota invite applications for a 2-year post-doctoral research position in Environmental Quality Impacts of Kernza®, a newly developed perennial cereal crop. As part of the USDA-funded KernzaCAP project, this position will bridge field research in Kansas with data management and synthesis from five field sites located across the Midwest, US. This position can be based in Salina, Kansas or St. Paul, Minnesota, but will be expected to work at each of the locations at specified times of the year.

Responsibilities:

- Managing field trials comparing Kernza responsiveness in productivity and indicators of soil health over time to forms and timing of nutrient additions and comparisons with annual cropping systems.
- Overseeing laboratory-based evaluations of physiochemical and biological soil health indicators.
- Coordinating and curating data generated and uploaded from investigators at multiple field sites.
- Leading project synthesis efforts relating findings in environmental quality impacts to other dimensions of the KernzaCAP project.
- The successful candidate will be involved in field days with growers and the public at large.
The successful candidate will coordinate and/or participate in scientific meetings or special sessions of meetings focused on Kernza.

The successful candidate will take lead and co-authorship roles on papers pertaining to field experiments and data synthesis in the KernzaCAP.

Competencies:

- **Mission Driven**: You are passionate about the mission of The Land Institute to create a diverse, perennial grain agroecosystem that feeds humanity and are interested in aligning your skills and personal genius to benefit this work.
- **Creative Problem Solver**: You excel at strategic thinking, being open to new perspectives and better ways to do things; you are creative, visionary and manage innovation well. You are interested in serving the organizations needs by developing, through a consultative and collaborative approach, novel solutions to organizational challenges.
- **Courage**: You do not retreat or shy away from hard things. You face challenges and conflict with professionalism, grace, and resolve.
- **Inspiring and Inspired**: You are inspired by the people around you, finding and harnessing the genius in your colleagues to meet organizational objective, and you are inspiring to others through example and your own genius applied.
- **Collaborative**: You are a team player first and believe in the power of a diverse collective to solve problems.
- **Growth Mindset**: You have the vulnerability to know what you don’t know, admit your flaws, and learn from others to grow and develop yourself and the organization.
- **Sense of Humor**: You have a great depth of knowledge in your area of expertise, but don’t take yourself or the world too seriously. You focus on the positive and find humor and awe in every day.

Position Requirements:

- Ph.D. in ecosystem ecology, biogeochemistry, agronomy, or related field
- Expertise in statistical analyses
- Preference will be given to candidates with modeling experience in the soil-plant-atmosphere continuum, as well as experience managing and analyzing large data sets

Environmental and Working Conditions:

- Prolonged periods of sitting at a desk and working on a computer and phone.
- Prolonged periods of standing in a laboratory setting

Compensation and Benefits:

The Land Institute offers an excellent benefits package and a competitive salary that is commensurate with experience. The salary for this position is $50k annually.

To Apply:

To be considered for this position, interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter, and contact information for three references to careers@landinstitute.org. Review of applications will begin February 15, 2022.

*The Land Institute is an equal opportunity employer and embraces the opportunity to provide employment to qualified individuals regardless of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information. We are pleased to provide reasonable accommodations to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.*
The above statements are not an exhaustive list of job duties and responsibilities of this position at The Land Institute. They only reflect the general duties and responsibilities necessary to describe the principal functions of the job. Responsibilities of the position are subject to change as determined necessary.

**Understanding and Agreement:**
I understand and agree to perform my job as best I can and commit to moving the mission of The Land Institute forward. I realize this written position description is designed to give me a summary of the major duties and responsibilities of my position. I may be asked to perform other position-related tasks that may not be specifically mentioned in this description.

I understand that The Land Institute is dedicated to a culture where ethical considerations are part of making decisions by all employees. This includes following federal and state laws and regulations and company policies and procedures. I know that if I become aware of any issues during my employment that seem questionable to me, I must report them so they may be reviewed and investigated.

I also understand that my position description is to be used as a guide for conduct in the employment setting and is not a contract or offer of a contract of employment terms. The Land Institute is an employment-at-will agency.

__________________________________________
Employee Signature  ________________________
Print Employee Name  Date

__________________________________________
Supervisor/HR Signature  ________________________
Print Supervisor Name  Date