Job Announcement: Advocacy Associate

**Note: for exceptionally experienced candidates the title of Advocacy Coordinator may be considered.*

We are looking for a skilled communicator, advocate and organizer to join us in advancing conservation programs and campaigns for wildlife and wildlands in the Pacific Northwest.

This is an opportunity to combine communications, organizing and advocacy skills on behalf of conservation work, with significant professional growth and community leadership potential.

Location: Seattle (Queen Anne). Work will primarily be remote through spring 2021, with in-person expectations increasing as appropriate given pandemic considerations. Some flexibility available. All reasonable support will be provided to facilitate successful remote work.

Regional travel for field projects, community meetings, volunteer events, etc. is expected to resume starting in summer 2021 under social distancing protocols. Travel expenses will be covered or reimbursed. Company vehicle available.

Timeline: Applications received by 3/26 will be given priority. Desired start by 4/30.

Background

A regional non-profit organization, Conservation Northwest has a 32-year track record of success protecting, connecting and restoring wildlands and wildlife from the Washington Coast to the British Columbia Rockies. **Our M.O. is simple: connect the big landscapes, restore the most vulnerable wildlife, and protect our natural heritage for future generations.** Our approximately 20 staffers and half a dozen regular contractors represent more than 4,000 dues-paying members in Washington, British Columbia and beyond. Our conservation community also includes over seventeen thousand activists, supporters and online followers.

Conservation Northwest is an equal opportunity employer committed to creating an inclusive workplace that represents the diversity in our communities. Veterans and people with diverse social, racial and ethnic backgrounds are encouraged to apply. All qualified applicants will be considered for employment without preference given to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, social background, or disability status.

We recognize that conservation must go hand-in-hand with healthy, prosperous communities. We're restoring wildlands and wildlife by working with diverse stakeholders. Through dialogue, we find common ground and collaborative solutions for challenging issues including habitat corridors, wilderness conservation, forest restoration and endangered species recovery across our region. For more, visit conservation.org/about-us and conservationnw.org/our-work

Position Summary:

Reporting to the Communications Director and working closely with Conservation Program Leads, Communications and Outreach Associate, and Member Engagement and Community Partnerships Coordinator, the Advocacy Associate is a point person for grassroots advocacy,

activist organizing and public engagement on behalf of conservation programs and campaigns in the Cascades and western Washington (territory west of Highway 97). They will work to grow the organization's advocacy communications and organize constituents to support wildlife and wildlands programs, particularly those related to wildlife-recreation coexistence.

Primary Responsibilities

- Working with Communications staff and Program Leads, will develop an understanding of conservation program goals, strategies and tactics, and will monitor for advocacy needs, threats and opportunities related to programs, especially at the grassroots level.

- Will write, disseminate and track conservation program, advocacy and issue-based communications across multiple mediums, including website (WordPress), social media, online advocacy (Phone 2 Action), email marketing and CRM (Salesforce) applications.

- Will identify, cultivate, educate and organize activists, volunteers, colleagues and local stakeholders on behalf of conservation programs and campaigns, empowering their voices and ours on behalf of wildlife and wildlands. This includes campaign planning, list-building, sign-on letters, fact sheets, grassroots action alerts and petitions, meeting attendance organizing, administering an email listserv, and other tactics to support identified conservation goals and grow our grassroots foundation for future campaigns.

- Over time, there will be increased emphasis on supporting sustainable recreation and coexistence with wildlife, including producing and sharing content supporting wildlife awareness, watchdogging policies and recreational development projects, and outreach and representation with outdoor colleagues, stores, companies and clubs/groups.

- Will coordinate conservation events and advocacy outreach in partnership with Communications and Outreach Associate and Member Engagement and Community Partnerships Coordinator. Some work on behalf of general organizational communications, events, outreach and development is expected.

- Other duties as assigned in coordination with Communications Director.

Desired Qualifications

- Demonstrated strong written and verbal communications skills. Ability to write clear, compelling copy for public consumption on complicated topics. Interest in campaign planning and advocacy strategy. Familiarity with media writing and AP style welcome.

- Organizing experience in a campaign, government, advocacy, labor or non-profit setting. Applicable experience via marketing, sales, hospitality or other may be considered.

- Must be able to maintain working relationships with diverse urban and rural stakeholders relating to wildlife and wildlands conservation, tribal treaty rights, environmental justice and outdoor recreation issues.

- Comfort with public speaking, presentations and meeting participation, both in-person and online, occasionally in front of crowds or government officials.

- Some experience with creative communications mediums such as video production, photography or design is beneficial. Equipment and software will be provided.

- Organized self-starter with an ability to take initiative in work, quickly familiarize oneself with complex topics, and complete multiple tasks with a degree of independence.

- Bachelor's Degree. Relevant education and minimum two years' experience on conservation, environmental, natural resources, government, communications or public affairs/relations issues strongly preferred.

- Passion for keeping the Northwest wild required. Interest in equitable solutions to conservation issues and promoting accessible advocacy opportunities to diverse groups.

Hours and Compensation

Employment Type: Full-time, exempt. Some flexibility but generally business hours with occasional night and weekend work. Infrequent field work or tours in uneven terrain.

Location: CNW's Seattle Headquarters. Some regional travel expected to locations such as Ellensburg, Leavenworth, Winthrop, Everett and Bellingham, including rural areas.

Compensation: $45,000 - $52,000 depending on experience. Benefits include medical / dental / vision insurance, Simple IRA, and a starting package of three weeks paid vacation.

To Apply:

Please send resume and one-page cover letter detailing your interest in this position and Conservation Northwest's mission to Chase Gunnell, Communications Director, at communications@conservationnw.org with Advocacy Associate in the email subject line.

Applicants granted an interview will be asked to provide two to three professional references and/or work samples. Expect two rounds of interviews.

Position is open until filled.

Web and email
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