Job Announcement:
Okanogan Forest Lead
North-Central Washington

Conservation Northwest, a regional non-profit organization working in Washington state and British Columbia, has a 32-year track record of success protecting wildlands and connecting habitat across the Pacific Northwest for the recovery of our region’s most iconic wildlife.

Our campaigns and groundbreaking collaborations reflect our science-based, tenacious, and pragmatic approach to conservation. We work on the ground to engage partners on projects that improve ecological resilience in forest and aquatic habitats from the Olympic Peninsula and Cascade Mountains to northeast Washington and southern British Columbia.

We are seeking an outgoing, energetic, locally connected, and technically proficient person to lead forest, wildlife and habitat conservation efforts on the Okanogan National Forest on the east slopes of Washington’s Cascade Mountains.

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.

For more, visit conservation.org/about-us and conservationnw.org/our-work

Position Summary

Develop and implement strategies that protect and restore wildlife habitat, increase habitat connectivity across barriers, and foster scientific, social, and political networks that enable favorable outcomes. Program work is diverse; ranging from technical analysis to collaborative engagement around ecologically based forestry and watershed restoration, wildlife recovery, access and range management, wilderness protection, and organizing and communications for public engagement and advocacy. Must be able to work independently, lead within our Forest Field team and maintain tight coordination and communication with staff in Twisp and Seattle. Team leadership and management skills are essential.

Duties:

- Engage directly and through coalitions in the design, development, funding, and implementation of quality landscape-scale forest and watershed restoration projects;
- Provide scientific and policy review, comment, and after action reviews on forest and aquatic restoration projects on the Okanogan National Forest and other public lands;
- Seek out and work with agency, tribal, private interests, and others to improve methods, efficiency, and ecological and social outcomes;
- Represent Conservation Northwest on the Northcentral Washington Forest Health Collaborative Steering Committee, Project Work Group, and other forums;
• Maintain operational knowledge of science, policy, and practices related to forest and watershed restoration, regional ecology, habitat connectivity, and wildlife and endangered species conservation and recovery;
• Build and maintain relationships, organize gatherings, lead field trips, and coordinate meetings and other events. Serve as a spokesperson and ambassador, representing Conservation Northwest in collaborative groups and with elected and agency officials, community leaders, and the media;
• Develop and present materials (fact sheets, blogs, articles, alerts, presentations) for policy reform, development and outreach efforts, and education and advocacy;
• Support Conservation Northwest’s Forest Field program and other programs, including grant support, and contractor and volunteer management.

Qualifications

Applicants must have at least five years professional experience in forest, wildlife or natural resource management and conservation. The ideal candidate will be a locally based, organized and resourceful self-starter with a strong passion for wildlife conservation, forestry and watershed restoration skills, familiarity with Washington landscapes, cultures, plants and animals, and a desire and ability to serve as a visible community leader.

Minimum requirements include:
• Bachelor’s degree or equivalent education or experience in forest, wildlife, or natural resource science; Master’s degree or equivalent experience preferred.
• Strong organization and project management abilities, including excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and a sturdy commitment to forging collaborative solutions.
• Solid working knowledge of science and policy related to forest and fire ecology, aquatics, climate change, wildlife, habitat connectivity and conservation;
• Strong work ethic, problem solving ability, creative thinking and attention to detail;
• Ability to multitask, handle deadlines, establish and juggle priorities, and work in a fast-paced environment;
• Demonstrated ability to apply science in policy and project development;
• Experience organizing events and conferences, public speaking, engaging officials, working with reporters, and public relations.
• Proficiency with Microsoft Office (Outlook, Word, Excel) and home office management; GIS competence desired
• A passion for wildlands and wildlife conservation.

Hours and Compensation

Hours: Full time with regular business hours and occasional regional travel, and evening or weekend commitments.

Compensation: $45,000 to $55,000 depending on experience with medical/dental/vision insurance, Simple IRA benefits, and generous vacation/leave.

To Apply

Submit resume and one-page cover letter detailing interest and qualifications to Dave Werntz, Science and Conservation Director, at dwerntz@conservationnw.org. Candidates granted an interview will be asked to provide two professional references and two writing samples.