



Job opening: Senior Wildlife Biologist – Western Region

Organizational overview:

Wildlands Network is a growing non-profit organization that is committed to reconnecting, restoring and rewilding North America so that life in all its diversity can thrive. We have staff in the United States and Mexico working with NGO partners, landowners, elected officials and government agencies to protect, maintain and restore wildlife habitat and movement corridors.

Wildlands Network is committed to recruiting, training and retaining talented, diverse and creative staff who are passionate about fulfilling our mission.

Position description:

This position reports directly to Wildlands Network's Chief Scientist, who is based in Durham, North Carolina.

The Senior Wildlife Biologist will manage projects and develop strategic initiatives designed to support the recovery, resiliency and conservation of native carnivore species and other keystone species in the Western United States, with a special focus on species native to New Mexico. In addition to managing a portfolio of New Mexico state-specific projects, the Biologist will consult on science and policy proposals to inform organizational strategy at the national and international levels. The Biologist will coordinate directly with the Western Program Director (new hire) to achieve on-the-ground results in the West.

The Biologist will serve as an organizational issue expert internally and externally. With a focus on achieving on-the-ground conservation results for wildlife, they will consult and advise on field science projects, policy development, community engagement and outreach, coalition building, communication and development activities.

Responsibilities include:

- Managing and developing a portfolio of projects designed to conserve and restore habitat, connectivity and populations of native wildlife, including native carnivores.
- Serving as a scientific expert within the organization on issues related to wildlife biology and ecology.

- Providing updates, information and advice on wildlife-based projects and activities across the organization to the Chief Scientist and Conservation Director to facilitate short- and long-term program management and planning.
- Working with other staff and interns to continually harvest, collate and organize relevant scientific wildlife research findings and developments to make them accessible to all staff for improving and guiding our work.
- Assisting the Chief Scientist in developing a coherent and consistent carnivore conservation strategy, in consultation with other program staff and relevant partners, across North America.
- Developing and promoting relationships with relevant academic researchers and graduate students in various fields (including ecological sciences and social sciences), to engage them in productive collaborations and specific projects.
- Managing and designing relevant intern programs.
- Providing expert technical assistance and advice to elected leaders and testifying as a representative of Wildlands Network in government forums and hearings, to support program and project goals.

Communications responsibilities include:

- Serving as a representative of Wildlands Network at scientific conferences and other similar events, and delivering presentations and webinars where needed to promote our vision and communicate with various audiences.
- Ensuring that new ideas and methodologies from relevant research, scientific bodies and conferences are brought to the attention of relevant staff and leadership.
- Reviewing external communications as requested to ensure scientific accuracy and to maintain Wildlands Network's reputation as a science-based organization.

Fundraising responsibilities include:

- Assisting the Development Team as requested:
 - o in maintaining and cultivating relationships with existing and potential new donors and foundations who are focused on our scientific work.
 - o in crafting and editing funding proposals and reports for new and existing foundations and donors with an interest in relevant science and research program work.

Desired Qualifications:

- Passionate about wildlife conservation and talented at imagining creative solutions to complex conservation problems.

- Advanced degree and associated research experience in wildlife biology/ecology or related fields or specialties.
- 5+ years of relevant project management and technical experience.
- Experience working with state and/or federal agency personnel engaged in wildlife management projects.
- Working knowledge of challenges and opportunities related to wildlife and carnivore management, to include social and political considerations.
- Understanding and appreciation of the strong ecological roles played by carnivores and other keystone species in North American ecosystems.
- Previous authorship of peer-reviewed papers and familiarity with publication process and opportunities.
- Familiarity with grant writing process and willingness to collaborate on organizational fundraising initiatives.
- Energetic and positive outlook, attitude and demeanor.
- Ability to manage competing tasks and fast workflow.
- Ability to work as an effective part of diverse, remote teams.
- Willingness and ability to travel, when safe to do so.
- Spanish language proficiency preferred.

Location: Albuquerque or Santa Fe preferred. Remote office locations in Utah, Colorado, New Mexico or Arizona may be considered based on experience and potential for future relocation.

Salary: \$60,000-75,000, dependent on experience and location

Benefits: Generous paid vacation, sick, family leave and sabbatical policies; employer-sponsored health and dental coverage; 10K life insurance policy; access to retirement account; support for ongoing professional development.

Job Type

Full-time, exempt

Wildlands Network is an equal opportunity employer.

To apply, please send your cover letter and resume to Dr. Ron Sutherland at ron@wildlandsnetwork.org.