

WILDERNESS WATCH JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Wilderness Defense Director

Wilderness Watch, a national organization dedicated to protecting the lands and waters in the National Wilderness Preservation System and preserving the integrity of the Wilderness Act, is seeking an inspired, dedicated wilderness advocate to fill the position of Wilderness Defense Director. The Wilderness Defense Director will be primarily responsible for reviewing and providing comments on proposed projects, management plans, or other activities that could affect designated Wilderness areas around the country. The Wilderness Defense Director will be part of a team of experienced wilderness advocates addressing threats and opportunities facing Wildernesses around the U.S.

Wilderness Watch is headquartered in Missoula, Montana. The preferred work location will be Missoula, though a remote location will be considered. The position is full-time. Wilderness Watch is transitioning to a 32-hour, four-day work week.

Responsibilities

- Reviewing, analyzing, and evaluating agency policy and project proposals that affect Wilderness, and drafting, reviewing, and submitting Wilderness Watch's comments on those proposals;
- Assisting staff attorney and other attorneys with research and document review;
- Assisting the policy and legislative staff on issues with overlapping concerns;
- Submitting, tracking, and reviewing Freedom of Information Act requests;
- Maintaining an issue database;
- Contributing to building and maintaining Wilderness Watch's issue and policy archive;
- Drafting, reviewing, or editing news releases, op-eds, newsletter articles, and educational materials relating to the above; and
- Co-drafting program reports for Board of Directors' meetings.

Qualifications

We are seeking candidates who have a demonstrated passion for, and commitment to, Wilderness preservation, are self-motivated, and are able to work both independently and in cooperation with other staff. Competitive applicants have a strong work ethic, including willingness to work some weekend or evening hours. While Wilderness Watch values candidates with experience on public land issues, we are also endeavoring to build the next generation of Wilderness advocates. For this reason, we also welcome applicants with less experience but a strong commitment to Wilderness ideals. Policy expertise can be learned, but passion and dedication are essential.

Desirable qualifications include:

- Clear commitment to Wilderness protection;

- A basic understanding of federal public land agencies and laws such as the Wilderness Act and National Environmental Policy Act;
- Experience working on public land issues, reviewing, and commenting on environmental impact statements or environmental assessments;
- Excellent writing, research, and analytical skills;
- A desire to work as part of a team;
- Willingness and capability to occasionally travel, including field work, overnight backpack, etc;
- Ability to think strategically; and
- Proficiency in basic computer skills and software including Microsoft Word, Excel, Adobe Acrobat, and Google file-sharing and storage features.

Compensation and Benefits

Salary range of \$55,000 - \$70,000 based on qualifications and experience. Generous vacation/leave and healthcare benefits. Retirement plan benefits after 2 years of employment. Flexible work hours and an excellent work environment. A four-day, 32-hour work week.

To Apply

Please submit the following as a single pdf to jobs@wildernesswatch.org:

- Cover letter explaining your interest in and qualifications for the position;
- Resume;
- Writing sample or excerpt (e.g. a letter or other submission to an agency on a public land or wildlife issue, essay or op-ed, etc.). Writing sample(s) should be primarily the work of the applicant and the samples combined should be limited to 10 pages or fewer; and
- Two professional references (including contact information).

Position will be open until filled with an anticipated start date of August or September 2024.

Wilderness Watch is a welcoming, accommodating, and fulfilling place to work. Wilderness Watch is an equal opportunity employer and considers all qualified candidates for employment without regard to race, ethnicity, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other status protected by law.