

YOUTH EDUCATION COORDINATOR – COLORADO TROUT UNLIMITED

Position Summary: Colorado Trout Unlimited (TU), the Colorado Council of the national coldwater conservation group Trout Unlimited, seeks an energetic, self-starter with strong communications and social skills as well as experience in managing volunteers and working with youth, to work with our 24 local chapters to engage young people from elementary school through college age groups with angling, watershed education and conservation. The Youth Education Coordinator is a full-time position developing and delivering educational programs to target audiences, assisting chapters in strengthening their programs for youth education, and identifying and developing funding partnerships to support these programs. The Youth Education Coordinator reports to Colorado TU's Executive Director, may supervise interns and/or seasonal employees, and will be stationed in TU's Denver office.

The position work plan includes:

Recruit and assist new sites for Colorado TU educational programs. Develop relationships with mentoring organizations, schools, and other youth-focused partners in order to bring Colorado TU youth programming to new audiences. With new sites, assist in delivering the appropriate programs (Stream Explorers, Trout in the Classroom, Outdoor Mentors, National Fishing in Schools Program, etc.) using a "gradual release" method by which Colorado TU would provide high levels of support initially while local volunteers, teachers, etc. would gradually take on more responsibility for continuing programming. Refine curricula for these programs based on experiences from participating sites.

Grantwriting and donor cultivation. Participate, along with Colorado TU and National Coldwater Conservation Fund staff, in cultivation of potential donors for youth education programs. Identify, and prepare and submit applications to, prospective foundation and corporate giving programs for youth education efforts. This position is funded primarily through these restricted fund sources.

Program evaluation. Develop, refine and distribute education evaluation tools for use both in tracking and improving Colorado TU programming and as a resource for local chapters, partner groups and schools. Host trainings for volunteer leaders and evaluation participants. Serve as central point for evaluation data collection, entry and analysis.

RiverWatch. As part of Colorado TU youth programming, work with chapters and school RiverWatch sites to advance both watershed education and water quality monitoring. Part of this program may involve becoming a certified RiverWatch trainer to assist in training of new participants/sites and in conducting site visits for QA/QC purposes.

College engagement. Provide support to existing, and establish new, "Five Rivers" college TU chapters as a vehicle for engaging young adults in TU's mission. Help link college groups with service learning opportunities and local TU chapters. Supervise statewide collaboration and coordination of clubs, and assist in coordinating annual College Club Rally.

Trout In the Classroom. Function as Colorado TIC Coordinator. Support existing sites by coordinating logistics between participating partners, chapters, and agencies. Recruit and evaluate prospective new sites for TIC in Colorado.

Youth camps. Working with existing and future recruited volunteers, ensure successful youth conservation camps on an annual basis including our high-school one-week summer camp. Provide assistance to chapters that wish to establish localized camp programs for youth in summer.

Outdoor Mentors. Work with volunteers to provide angling/watershed opportunities for youth through partnership with mentoring groups (eg, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Denver Kids Inc). Coordinate with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and other outdoor recreation organizations on shared youth events featuring multiple outdoor experiences (bowhunting, skeet shooting, angling, birding, etc.).

Other duties. Provide content relevant to the above program areas for the Colorado TU blog, website, and High Country Angler magazine; participate in core Colorado TU events such as the Annual Gala, Rendezvous, and Fall Meeting (including volunteer training opportunities); prepare written reports on youth programs for grant and funder reporting; collaborate in other Colorado TU campaigns and initiatives, especially where there are cross over opportunities with youth education efforts.

Qualifications:

- Bachelors or graduate degree in a related field.
- Previous experience or demonstrated ability with development and/or delivery of youth education programs.
- Strong communications and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to recruit and manage volunteers.
- Experience in managing partnership programs or projects (e.g., relationships with agencies, nonprofits, etc.)
- Background knowledge of watershed and fishery issues and dedication to conservation; specific experience with water quality monitoring is a plus.
- Ability to travel statewide and to work weekend and evening hours when needed.
- Must have reliable transportation.
- Ability to lift and carry objects weighing up to 30 pounds.
- Angling experience is needed, as a basis for delivering youth fishing programs.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite.
- Candidates must pass a background check for involvement with youth programs.

Salary Range: \$32 – 36K plus excellent benefits, depending upon experience. Relocation not provided.

To apply, please email cover letter and resume by October 2 to: David Nickum, Executive Director, Colorado Trout Unlimited, at dnickum@tu.org. No phone calls please. Equal opportunity employer.