



Wildlife Program Associate

REPORTS TO: Wildlife Program Coordinator

LOCATION: Bozeman, MT

STATUS: Regular, full time, exempt

LAST UPDATE: April 2018

Organizational Overview

For over 30 years, the Greater Yellowstone Coalition (GYC) has been “America’s Voice For Yellowstone.” As the only on-the-ground conservation group working solely to protect the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), we strive passionately, professionally, and strategically to protect the lands, waters, and wildlife of this remarkable area. Greater Yellowstone’s 20 million acres comprise one of the last and largest intact temperate ecosystems on Earth. It is also home to vibrant communities with varied economies and unique cultures in the three states of Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana.

As a place-based conservation advocacy organization, GYC uses the full range of tools available to achieve lasting conservation success including leading campaigns designed to change governmental policies and corporate or private activities, public education and outreach, research, lobbying, litigation, on the ground restoration and partnerships. GYC embraces science to direct our work and ensure that informed and balanced decisions are made regarding management of Greater Yellowstone now, and for future generations.

Scope of Responsibilities

The Wildlife Program Associate (WPA) plays a key role in conserving the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem’s iconic wildlife. Under the supervision of GYC’s Wildlife Program Coordinator, the WPA advocates for a balanced and science-based approach to wildlife management that ensures priority species thrive in Greater Yellowstone. S/he will help develop and implement strategies that achieve GYC’s wildlife conservation goals. S/he builds support for wildlife conservation among landowners, community leaders, agency officials, and others. The WPA will be responsible for carrying out key pieces of GYC’s outreach and implementation regarding human-wildlife conflicts and coexistence, as well as shaping state and federal policies for managing wildlife. Duties include organizing public events and on-the-ground projects, building successful partnerships with landowners and state/federal agencies, and effectively communicating GYC’s wildlife program efforts. The position will be involved in proactive, landscape scale conservation, particularly focused on GYC’s goals for promoting connectivity and the protection of migration corridors. S/he will represent GYC at state legislative sessions, with government agencies and elected officials, the media, and with the organization’s funders and supporters. Teamwork is a core competency at GYC, making close coordination between GYC’s other offices and departments an essential duty of this position.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist with the development and implementation of strategies that influence the conservation and management of GYC’s priority wildlife species.

- Implement key pieces of GYC's wildlife migrations and grizzly bear campaigns, with a focus on southwest Montana.
- Build support among area residents, landowners, the tourism community, and sportsmen for a healthy, stable, and ultimately connected grizzly bear population.
- Assist in developing outreach and media strategies that build support for conserving Greater Yellowstone's iconic wildlife.
- Work with contractors and/or partner organizations who assist in providing legislative, administrative, and/or scientific support on wildlife issues.
- Create effective partnerships with landowners, livestock producers, and communities to reduce wildlife conflicts, generally in southwest Montana.
- Develop close working relationships with GYC supporters, other conservation groups, agency personnel and community leaders.
- Review proposed agency actions and legislation; develop written comments and organizing strategies to influence wildlife management policies and decisions.
- Assist GYC's Development Department to achieve GYC's fundraising goals as necessary.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in a related field and several years of experience in wildlife conservation.
- Ability to work well in a collaborative, well-coordinated environment.
- Passionate about the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and wildlife conservation.
- Ability to apply emerging wildlife management science in developing strong policy positions.
- Experience working with diverse stakeholders who hold a broad range of opinions on species such as bears and wolves.
- Experience planning and implementing strategies aimed at bringing about public policy change.
- Strong communications skills, including experience in public speaking, and an ability to work well with the media to articulate organizational positions.
- Ability to execute on-the-ground conflict reduction projects working with landowners, livestock producers, and communities.
- Experience with federal agency process and excellent writing skills.
- Experience organizing and mobilizing public support.
- Familiarity with the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and conservation issues in the West.
- The ability and willingness to travel throughout the region.
- Commitment to GYC's mission and goals.

Physical Demands & Working Conditions

- Business office environment with moderate noise
- Travel, generally by car, required
- Work on a computer, and use a telephone, copy machines, and other general office equipment
- Lift and carry up to 25 pounds
- Occasional field work and member outings outside the office

Employee's Signature

Date

Supervisor's Signature

Date