Wind River Conservation Fellows

REPORTS TO: Senior Wind River Conservation Associate

LOCATION: Any negotiated location within or adjacent to the Wind River Reservation, example Ft Washakie, or Lander, WY

STATUS: Full-Time, non-exempt, two-year position

Scope of Organization

Greater Yellowstone Coalition (GYC), named one of Outside Magazine’s Top 100 places to work two years in a row, seeks two Wind River Conservation Fellows to play a key role in major campaigns to protect the lands, waters, and wildlife of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE). The GYE is a remarkable natural landscape: home to a complete array of native wildlife, the headwaters of the west, an important place in the history of conservation, and of deep importance to Native Americans who have made this place home since time immemorial.

Scope of Responsibilities

The Wind River Conservation Fellows will work to build local capacity and to conserve the lands, waters, and wildlife on and around the Wind River Reservation (WRR) within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The Fellows will work under the supervision of the Senior Wind River Conservation Associate (SWRCA). Working with the Waters Conservation Coordinator and other GYC conservation staff, the fellows will help develop and execute strategies to support tribal, GYC and partner organization initiatives around Buffalo restoration, Water, and climate resilience. The Fellows will work with Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribal members, elders, organizations and governments to build support for land, water, and wildlife conservation and traditional ecological knowledge on the Reservation and on ancestral lands off the Reservation. The Fellows will regularly seek input on program priorities from community leaders on the Reservation and build partnerships that are respectful and effective. Under the guidance of the SWRCA, selected applicants will work closely with tribal programs and organizations on specific areas of emphasis including buffalo, health of waterways, ancestral foods and conservation activities important to the lands, water and wildlife of the WRR. Seeking the advice and inclusion of elders will be a major component of these positions as activities are established to increase interaction between elders and young people. Selected candidates will actively support this program and will serve as thought leaders and be an important part of Greater Yellowstone Coalition’s conservation team.

Duties may include leading on-the-ground conservation projects, organizing public events, facilitating youth education and leadership training, research of technical water issues, and building successful partnerships with community leaders, elected representatives, state/federal agencies, and tribal governments. The position will be involved in proactive, landscape scale conservation. The Fellows may represent GYC with government agencies and elected officials, the media and with the organization’s funders and supporter base. 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
• Work with conservation staff and tribal community members to build a program for conservation efforts on and around the WRR that align with GYC’s vision and tribal priorities
• Implement a variety of outreach strategies and tactics to build support among tribal members and other key constituents for conservation issues on and around the WRR
• Maintain, grow, and develop new relationships with elected tribal officials, key tribal members, and cultural and spiritual leaders within and around the Wind River Reservation
• Plan and implement campaign tactics, educational events, and on-the-ground projects that increase community engagement and inspire conservation leaders within the region
• Implement strategic campaigns, working with other staff at GYC, partners and indigenous leaders, to find solutions to the issues influencing the protection of land, water, wildlife, and indigenous ancestral cultural landscapes within the GYE
• Serve as spokesperson for GYC’s programs and perspectives on a variety of topics
• Be an active participant in achieving GYC’s development and fundraising goals
• Perform other duties as assigned

Qualifications
• A bachelor’s degree in a relevant field of study (experience can substitute, if highly relevant)
• A minimum of 2 years of experience working with native communities
• Familiarity and understanding of public land, wildlife, and water issues, sciences, and policies in rural landscapes, preferably in Idaho, Wyoming or Montana
• Effective oral and written communication skills and the ability to discuss science and policy with youth or people outside of conservation field
• Excellent strategic and problem-solving skills
• Deep respect for and knowledge of tribal sovereignty, trust responsibility and self-determination
• Experience using Microsoft Office and willingness to use shared project software/programs
• Willingness to travel, primarily in the region (valid driver’s license required)
• Commitment to the mission and goals of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition

Preferred Qualifications
• Previous work experience with the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho Tribes on the WRR
• Experience working with non-profit conservation organizations is not required but will be considered a strong plus.
• Understanding of federal Indian law and policies
• Understanding of traditional ecological knowledge regarding public and ancestral lands issues and resources.
• Familiarity with regional and tribal policies and eagerness to engage in public processes.
• Ability to think creatively and strategically to find solutions to challenges.
• Experience with volunteer and youth engagement.
• Native American candidates with strong connections to the WRR who are interested in leading, designing and sharing power in the vision, implementation and evaluation of the work are encouraged to apply.

this position is open to native American candidates. Tribal members with strong connections to the WRR are encouraged to apply.

Compensation
• Salary: $43,000
• Employer paid health premiums for employees and contributions for dependents, spouses, and domestic partners.
• Voluntary insurance options: vision, dental, life, and long-term disability.
• Generous time-off: vacation, sick, personal, paid holidays, and sabbatical.
• Tuition reimbursement program.
• Employer contribution to profit sharing retirement plan.

**Physical Working Conditions**

GYC is committed to honoring and improving accommodations within our existing infrastructure.
• Business office environment with moderate noise.
• Will sit or stand at a desk and move between offices. Accommodations can be made.
• Work on a computer, use a telephone, and other general office equipment.
• Lift and carry up to 25 pounds. The use of a dolly, cart, etc. is available. Accommodations honored and assistance from other staff are strongly encouraged.
• This position will require travel within the Wind River Reservation and as much as 10% travel by car to our regional offices.

**To apply:**

Please email a letter of interest explaining how your skills and experience match the position description, as well as a resume, and names of three references to jobs@greateryellowstone.org. Please enter “WRC Fellow 2021” into the subject line of the email to ensure a timely review of your materials. Deadline for applying is September 1, 2021. Positions are open until filled. GYC is an equal opportunity employer. No phone calls please.