Job Title: Wildlife Technician

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, Mexico and Canada working with NGO partners, landowners, elected officials, and government agencies to protect, maintain and restore wildlife habitat and movement corridors.

Job Description:
We are currently seeking a contractor to serve as a Wildlife Technician to assist with the successful execution of a project in the Four Corners Region of Arizona and New Mexico aiming to evaluate and understand how wildlife interact with Utility Scale Solar Energy developments. As part of the team, the technician will help to develop and identify new methods and resources to identify and reduce wildlife-solar conflict. The selected candidate will support project efforts by deploying and maintaining trail cameras, conducting track and sign surveys for wildlife with an emphasis on pronghorn, monitoring GPS-collared pronghorn, and reviewing and cataloging images from remote cameras to identify species.

Work will occur primarily on Navajo Nation lands near Sander, AZ. Strong preference will be given to local Native American tribal members with familiarity with local wildlife, plants, cultures, and customs of the area.

Responsibilities:

- Deploy and maintain an array of trail cameras to monitor wildlife activity, specifically focusing on pronghorn.
- Conduct track and sign surveys for pronghorn.
- Review and analyze images captured by remote cameras to accurately identify and catalog wildlife species encountered.
- Compile and maintain accurate records and databases of camera deployments, survey findings, and monitoring data.
- Collaborate with other team members and researchers to ensure effective coordination and integration of field activities.

Required Qualifications:

- High school diploma, or equivalent, is required but strong preference will be given to candidates who have completed or are pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in wildlife biology, ecology, environmental science, or a related field.
- Experience in utilizing handheld GPS devices or smartphone applications for navigation and in mapping tracks and waypoints.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail to maintain accurate field records.
- Ability to work independently in remote field settings, often under challenging environmental conditions.
- Physical fitness to hike up to 10 miles per day while carrying a pack weighing up to 40 pounds.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills to collaborate effectively with team members and researchers.
• Valid driver’s license and willingness to travel to various field sites in NW New Mexico and eastern Arizona.
• Some overnight travel is required.
• Year-round field work in both hot and cold conditions.
• Experience driving and navigating on rural dirt roads using 4-wheel drive vehicles in diverse conditions.

Desired Qualifications:

• Knowledge and experience in camera trapping techniques and camera deployment.
• Familiarity with image analysis software and the ability to accurately identify and catalog wildlife species from images.
• Experience using Microsoft Office suite of software with emphasis on Microsoft Excel and Word.
• Experience with statistical analyses or software including occupancy or mark-recapture analyses.
• Bilingual with fluency in the Navajo (Dine) language.

Compensation: $20/hour. This position will be full time contract position (40 hours per week) for 3.5 years.

Location: The technicians will be based out of Window Rock, AZ and will be expected to work in, or near, Window Rock, AZ, Gallup, NM, or nearby areas. Travel to our office in Farmington, NM will be required at regular intervals (1-2 times per month).

How to Apply:
Please send a resume, cover letter, and the names and contact information for two references to Dr. Aaron Facka, aaron@wildlandsnetwork.org. No phone calls please and be sure to put “wildlife technician application” in the subject line of your email to receive full consideration. Also, please label any file attachments with your last name, for example SmithCoverLetter.pdf. Application Deadline: August 15, 2023, at midnight Mountain Time.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:
Wildlands Network is committed to increasing equity, diversity, inclusion and justice in all elements of our work and with our partners to support the interconnected needs of wildlife and people in a rapidly changing world. We recruit, employ, train, compensate, and promote regardless of race, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, citizenship, genetic information, past, current, or prospective service in the uniformed services, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal, state, or local law. We are proud to be an equal opportunity employer. Applicants are invited to learn more about Wildlands Network’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion here.
If you have a disability and require an accommodation or assistance with our application process, please tell us how we can help by calling us at 385-229-4849.

The requirements listed in our job descriptions are guidelines and if you have many of the qualifications listed, we encourage you to apply. We are committed to providing training and professional development opportunities to help the right candidate succeed with us. Applying gives you the opportunity to be considered.