

Title: Public Lands Fellow
New Mexico Wild

Date: October 2017

Goals: To provide hands on experience to an individual in the beginning of a career in conservation to observe, learn and contribute to a seasoned team consisting of staff, board of directors and conservation partners in a bellwether conservation state to 1) defend the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument against de-designation attempts; 2) advance efforts to permanently protect certain areas within the monument as Wilderness; 3) defend public lands more generally against seizure and harm; 3) advance place-based conservation campaigns, including Gila Wilderness and Gila Wild and Scenic River designation; and 4) grow, diversify and organize broad base of public lands supporters.

Select Activities and Responsibilities:

- 1) Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument (OMDP) and Public Lands Defense Organizing
 - o Track and respond to attacks on OMDP and public lands by engaging grassroots, grasstops, and key stakeholders.
 - o Recruit and mobilize a coalition of public lands stakeholders, businesses, and others to activate memberships and supporters through action alerts, social, media and events/rallies.
 - o Assist in developing and engaging rapid response network.
 - o Assist in passing resolutions from local governing entities and generating letters of support for protection.
 - o Utilize existing data from sources such as the Convention and Visitors Bureaus, Departments of Tourism, Federal Land Management Agencies, and Chambers of Commerce to generate success stories highlighting positive economic impacts of OMDP and public lands.
 - o Engage grazing permittees, ranchers, tribal leaders and other stakeholders in conversation about the economic, conservation and recreational values.
 - o Lead hikes, outings, service projects and tours for opinion leaders and other influential community members into OMDP and public lands.
 - o Utilize social media, other forms of communications and New Mexico Wild print publications to build campaign awareness and to activate supporters.
 - o Assist with submitting letters to the editor and op-ed pieces to support public lands protection and access to public lands.
 - o Assist in generating earned media stories in support of public lands protection.

- 2) Place Based Conservation Campaigns
 - o Advance efforts to protect OMDP Wilderness, Gila roadless areas, Gila River, Otero Mesa, Carlsbad-area lands with wilderness characteristics and other areas as directed utilizing strategies outlined in OMDP section.

- 3) Grow, diversify and engage base of grassroots support

- o Identify stakeholder groups currently under-represented and/or those with high growth potential, including youth, Hispanics and faith based groups and engage them in culturally appropriate and creative ways.

Requirements/Desired Skills:

- Bachelor's degree in biology, geology, archaeology, communications or political science desired;
- Experience working with youth groups and coordinating volunteers desired;
- Bi-lingual Spanish highly desired;
- Willingness to travel within 2nd congressional district as needed;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills;
- Experience with social media platforms.

Location: Position based in Las Cruces, New Mexico or surrounding area.

Compensation: Competitive salary plus benefits. Full time position. Grant funded position for two-years; extension possible funds permitting.

Mentor: The Fellow must agree to utilize a highly committed mentor identified for the purpose of assisting the individual become a future conservation leader.

Posting

New Mexico Wild seeks full time Public Lands Fellow for a minimum of two-year term to be based out of Las Cruces or surrounding area. Fellowship will provide hands on experience to an individual in the beginning of their conservation career to observe, learn and contribute to a seasoned team in a bellwether conservation state to defend the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument and public lands; advance place based conservation campaigns; and grow, diversify and engage base of grassroots support.

Desired attributes include Bachelor's degree in biology, geology, archaeology, communications or political science; experience working with youth groups and coordinating volunteers; bi-lingual Spanish; excellent written and oral communication skills; and experience with social media platforms.

Celebrating our 20th anniversary, the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance (New Mexico Wild) is the state's largest, independent, homegrown, grassroots advocacy organization dedicated exclusively to land conservation and wilderness protection.

New Mexico Wild is an equal opportunity employer and actively works to ensure fair and equal treatment of its employees regardless of differences based on culture, socioeconomic status, race, marital or family situation, gender, age, ethnicity, religious beliefs, physical ability or sexual orientation.

Send cover letter and resume to jobs@nmwild.org.