



## **Staff Attorney Job Announcement**

Work Level: Full-Time Exempt

Offices in Santa Fe, Denver, Tucson, Missoula, Portland, Laramie, and Salt Lake City. Missoula or Denver location preferred, but possibly flexible.

**WildEarth Guardians** works to protect and restore the wildlife, wild rivers, wild places, and health of the American West. We believe in nature's right to exist and thrive. We act on this belief with compassion and courage by preserving the wild world. We defend wildness, empower life, end injustices, and stand for healthy, sustainable ecosystems and human communities. We embrace conflict and cooperate without compromising our values. We execute our campaigns strategically and decisively; we mobilize, inform, and inspire others, and work to heal wounded landscapes. Our enduring and fierce advocacy leads us to success.

We operate four major programs—Wildlife, Wild Places, Wild Rivers, and Climate & Energy—and rely on a potent combination of litigation, education, scientific analysis, and public advocacy in our work. Today, *Guardians* has more than 100,000 members and e-activists, the majority of who live in the 11 western states. We have offices in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming. Our 27-person staff includes lawyers, policy experts, scientists, ecosystem restoration experts, organizers, and fundraisers. Our 2015 budget is \$3.5 million, which comes from diverse sources, including members and donors, foundations, government grants, and legal fees.

### **Position Summary:**

The Staff Attorney will begin no later than October 12, 2015, reports to the Senior Attorney, and works primarily in the Wildlife and Wild Places programs. The Staff Attorney litigates with a particular focus on Endangered Species Act, but also including litigation using NEPA, CWA, FLPMA, NFMA, The Wilderness Act, etc. The Staff Attorney will assist in development of strategic campaigns. With only a small in-house litigation team, the Staff Attorney needs to be able to work well independently, on a team, and in collaborative efforts. The Staff Attorney will be given responsibility for cases with supervision from the Senior Attorney and/or the Program Director in the relevant program. *Guardians* seeks to keep our entire staff updated and educated on current legal issues and the Staff Attorney participates in these efforts.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Evaluate litigation proposals from programs; conduct factual and legal research in furtherance of such evaluation.
- Draft and assist in drafting notices of intent letters, pleadings, briefs, and otherwise litigate cases primarily in federal court, but also potentially in state court and at the administrative level.
- Develop and maintain relationships with outside counsel with whom we work.

- Prepare and conduct workshops for staff members on various topics related to environmental litigation. Assist other staff members as appropriate.
- Support litigation in all the four programs as requested.
- Other duties as assigned by supervisor.

### **Special Job Requirements:**

- Bar membership in at least one western state.
- Minimum of 5 years experience in environmental litigation, preferably with a focus on wildlife and public lands and using ESA, NEPA, NFMA, and FLPMA.
- Ability to handle a busy docket.
- Should have gumption and grit.
- Some travel around the United States. Expect flexible work hours, including some weekend and evening hours.

### **Compensation and Benefits:**

*Guardians* offers a competitive salary and benefits package, including full health and dental insurance, paid vacation, health leave, and paid holidays.

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

### **To Apply:**

Send the following materials **electronically by 8/3**: cover letter explaining how your experiences and skills match this position; résumé; one legal writing sample that is predominantly your work; and contact and relationship information for three professional references to:

Sarah McMillan  
Senior attorney  
WildEarth Guardians  
[apply@wildearthguardians.org](mailto:apply@wildearthguardians.org)