



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Wildlife Program Coordinator

Hybrid Remote: Santa Barbara, Ventura, San Luis Obispo - California

Los Padres ForestWatch is hiring a full-time Wildlife Program Coordinator to support a range of initiatives to protect wildlife and habitats in Los Padres National Forest and throughout California's central coast region. Our mission is to safeguard these public lands—and the animals that call them home—by advocating for responsible management, protecting biodiversity, and engaging communities through education and conservation efforts.

ForestWatch welcomes diversity and is committed to creating an inclusive and equitable work environment for all employees that encourages and celebrates differences. Our staff and Board strive to incorporate inclusive practices in the performance of all duties and responsibilities, on a consistent and ongoing basis, and continually work to increase awareness and sensitivity to the needs and concerns of individuals from diverse cultures, backgrounds, and orientations.

Overview of Position

The Wildlife Program Coordinator will be responsible for implementing ForestWatch's Room to Roam program. Room to Roam focuses on protecting wildlife movement corridors and fostering coexistence between humans and native wildlife in the Los Padres National Forest region including Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo counties. This position will support related education and outreach initiatives, field work and monitoring, management of citizen science programs, and volunteer coordination related to Room to Roam along with additional responsibilities related to other ForestWatch projects.

This role is hybrid, based in our Santa Barbara office. The Project Coordinator will work closely with, and under the direct supervision of, the Director of Advocacy and Field Operations.

Primary Responsibilities

In coordination with other ForestWatch staff, the Wildlife Program Coordinator will conduct a variety of activities including:

- Management and implementation of citizen science initiatives related to collection of vehicular-strike wildlife mortality data using ForestWatch’s mobile data collection app;
- Conducting in-the-field wildlife habitat surveys (and other field monitoring) to collect data related to the condition and status of existing crossings and corridors throughout Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo counties;
- Research, development, and delivery of education and outreach materials for ranchers, landowners, farmers, and homeowners on human-wildlife conflict mitigation strategies (print, social media, webinars, workshops, consultations);
- Supporting ForestWatch’s trash cleanup, land stewardship, and habitat restoration initiatives;
- Research and outreach in support of ForestWatch’s advocacy and policy initiatives, including the promotion of new programs with city and county leaders aimed at protecting wildlife movement corridors and habitat;
- Attendance at community events to engage and inspire the public about our region’s wildlife and to promote human-wildlife coexistence strategies; and
- Building and maintain positive working relationships with partner organizations and other stakeholders.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will possess a strong background in the following skillsets:

Minimum Education and Experience: A bachelor’s degree in biology, environmental science, wildlife management, conservation, or a related field. Graduate degree and/or prior experience in environmental monitoring, conservation, or citizen science initiatives is preferred.

Fieldwork Experience: Demonstrated experience conducting wildlife or environmental fieldwork, including data collection and surveys in diverse terrain. Knowledge of local wildlife and ecosystems in the Central Coast region is a plus.

Communication Skills: Strong written and verbal communication skills, including experience developing outreach materials for a range of audiences such as landowners, farmers, and the general public. Experience with social media, webinars, and educational workshops is highly desirable.

Cultural Competence and Interpersonal Skills: Ability to communicate effectively and respectfully with a wide range of stakeholders, including landowners, ranchers, and rural communities, with sensitivity to their perspective and concerns.

Data Entry and Organization: Ability to accurately enter, organize, and manage data collected through fieldwork, citizen science initiatives, and mobile data collection apps. Proficiency with Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access, or similar software to organize, analyze, and present data.

Project Management: Strong organizational and project management skills to handle multiple tasks and deadlines. Experience with coordinating volunteer efforts and working in a team environment.

Collaboration and Relationship-Building: Excellence with building and maintaining strong working relationships with partner organizations, stakeholders, landowners, and volunteers.

Research: Experience conducting research and supporting education and advocacy efforts on wildlife and conservation policy.

Physical Ability: Comfortable with performing fieldwork that requires hiking and working outdoors in various weather conditions. *Reasonable, independent work in remote, outdoor settings and environments is required.*

Location

We are headquartered in Santa Barbara, California, a mid-sized active coastal town with exciting opportunities to explore the outdoors, arts, restaurants, breweries, and wineries. Our team members maintain a hybrid work schedule with a combination of remote, in-office, and field work in the forest and surrounding communities.

This position requires travel throughout our area, and occasional work on evenings and weekends. The position requires residence in Santa Barbara, Ventura, or San Luis Obispo counties. The office employs a hybrid approach where staff are in the office a minimum of 1-2 days per week and as necessary depending on case and office needs and may otherwise choose whether to work remotely or in the office.

Compensation

The base salary for this position is \$78,000 and may be adjusted commensurate with experience. ForestWatch offers an excellent benefits package including 100% employer-paid health insurance with top-tier coverage plus dental and vision benefits, a flexible office and remote hybrid schedule, a generous paid holiday and vacation package, and a 403(b) retirement savings plan. Employees also enjoy significant pro discounts from some of the world's leading outdoor apparel and equipment companies, and an opportunity to

make a meaningful difference in the future of our wildlife, open spaces, climate, and communities.

Application Procedure

To apply, send a cover letter describing your qualifications and your personal connection and commitment to land and wildlife conservation, along with your resume, contact information for three professional references, and written samples of your previous work advocating for a particular issue to jobs@LPFW.org. The Hiring Committee will begin reviewing applications in early November, and candidates will continue to be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. No phone calls, please.