



Position Description

Title: Associate Attorney (One-year term position)

Reports to: Legal Director

Location: Carbondale, Colorado

FLSA: Exempt

Position Summary

In support of Wilderness Workshop's mission to protect public lands, the Associate Attorney provides legal and policy capacity to our conservation program. The Associate Attorney plays a key role in Wilderness Workshop's advocacy at the federal level to achieve our conservation goals, in collaboration with our Legal and Policy Directors. Primarily, the Associate Attorney brings legal and policy expertise to our engagement in public land plans and projects, national policy efforts, federal legislation, and strategic litigation. Wilderness Workshop is a highly integrated team, and the Associate Attorney also supports our major campaigns with legal and policy strategy and tactics.

The Associate Attorney will have the opportunity to work with and learn from respected leaders in the public land conservation field. Wilderness Workshop works in coalition with national partners and environmental law firms, and the Associate Attorney will be exposed to a variety of conservation issues and legal strategies. This position is an excellent networking opportunity within the conservation community.

This is a one-year term position based in our Carbondale office.

Primary Responsibilities

- In collaboration with the Legal Director, use a complete set of legal advocacy tools to further Wilderness Workshop's conservation goals, including litigation, policy and administrative advocacy, and collaboration.
- Support the Legal Director with active litigation, including factual investigation, legal research and analysis, briefing, Freedom of Information Act review, and drafting declarations.
- Participate in land management plans and projects in support of Wilderness Workshop's conservation goals, including drafting National Environmental Policy Act comments,

filing administrative appeals, meeting with agency staff, and coordinating with partner organizations.

- Collaborate with the Policy Director to pursue litigation strategies that support Wilderness Workshop's policy priorities, defense efforts, political strategies, and major campaigns.
- Help members of the public engage in National Environmental Policy Act processes, including by providing guidance on commenting and protesting/objecting, and working directly with activists.

Required Qualifications

- Law degree from an accredited law school.
- Admission to and good standing with the Colorado state bar (preferably) or other state bar.

Desired Qualifications

- Up to 3 years of litigation experience.
- Expertise in public land law, policy and/or management.
- Excellent research, analytic, writing, and communication skills.
- Strong work ethic and initiative, and sound yet creative judgment.
- Collaborative and experience working in a team environment.
- Excellent organization skills, attention to detail, professionalism, ability to meet deadlines.

Compensation and Benefits

This one-year term position pays \$70,000. Our benefits package includes health insurance, a retirement plan, vacation, wellness and sick days in addition to federal holidays. We believe time in the field is motivating, inspiring and critical to our success as advocates – and we create space for our employees to experience the places we are working to protect.

How to Apply

Qualified candidates are encouraged to apply by submitting a letter of interest and resume to Jobs@wildernessworkshop.org with the subject: "Associate Attorney." Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and the position will be filled as soon as possible. We anticipate beginning interviews in late-September.

Wilderness Workshop provides equal employment opportunities to all persons. No employee or applicant for employment will be discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, otherwise qualified handicap or disability, or veteran status.

More About Wilderness Workshop

Wilderness Workshop is dedicated to the conservation of western Colorado's public lands.

Wilderness Workshop is a community-based organization working to protect the public lands of Colorado's Western Slope and build an engaged constituency in support of public land conservation and stewardship. We rely on science, grassroots activism, communications, and law and policy as the primary tools in our toolbox.

Our geography is centered on the White River National Forest and the Colorado River Valley, and from our basecamp in Carbondale we work to defend and protect treasured landscapes such as the Thompson Divide, Flat Tops, Roan Plateau, and North Fork Valley.

Founded in 1967, Wilderness Workshop has earned a national reputation for passionate, strategic advocacy, effective grassroots activism, and scientific authority. We are a trusted leader in the conservation community, and we work collaboratively with local, regional and national partners toward a shared vision for a healthy, ecologically intact planet.

We are committed to ensuring that public lands are accessible and enjoyable for all, and that equity and justice are centered in public lands management. As an organization we are similarly working to become more inclusive and diverse and ensure we, and our work, are representative of the communities we serve.

Working at Wilderness Workshop and Living in the Roaring Fork Valley

Wilderness Workshop offers its staff a close-knit, relatively casual work environment that is focused on results and impact. We're passionate and creative about our work, and we like to work collaboratively, both internally and externally. Successful members of the team are self-starters, life-long learners, community builders, and enjoy the nimbleness of a smaller organization that acts quickly to take advantage of new opportunities.

The Roaring Fork Valley stretches from the top of Independence Pass, through Aspen and Carbondale to the confluence with the Colorado River at Glenwood Springs. The breadth and depth of recreation and cultural amenities found in our community are second to none. Every town in our region provides incredible access to public lands and nearly endless opportunities to ski, snowshoe, hike, bike, fish, camp, climb, and kayak just out the backdoor. In addition to outdoor opportunities, nationally recognized art and cultural institutions, unique businesses, a mix of public and private educational institutions, places of worship, and many nonprofits and volunteer opportunities are all found in the area.

Wilderness Workshop is headquartered in Carbondale, which offers a community-oriented, small-town feel, nestled in the larger Roaring Fork Valley. With many events and networking opportunities, the growing, close-knit community extends visitors and new residents a hearty welcome. While finding housing can be challenging, there is a growing housing stock and a variety of options and opportunities, from downtown Carbondale to more rural settings or other towns within a 20-30 minute drive.

This is What Success Looks Like at Wilderness Workshop

We engage in a wide range of issues to achieve our mission, and there's no shortage of exciting efforts underway at any given time. Here are some of the things we're particularly proud of right now:

Protecting the Thompson Divide - After more than a decade of activism, our community convinced the Bureau of Land Management to cancel 25 illegal leases in the Thompson Divide. We're now working to pass federal legislation to permanently protect the area through the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy (CORE) Act.

Acting on climate - We're working with partners across the state and the country to ensure the Biden Administration's modernization of the federal oil and gas program results in decisions that eliminate climate pollution from our public lands and align with global and national climate targets. We're also participating in a statewide coalition to ensure the Colorado Climate Action Plan is successful in meeting ambitious climate targets, and that equity and justice are centered in our state's climate efforts.

Defiende Nuestra Tierra - Three years ago we launched our Defiende Nuestra Tierra (Defend Our Land) program to build relationships with the Roaring Fork and Colorado River Valley's Latinx communities and partner with those communities to protect public lands. The program has been a great success and is now staffed full time.

No dams in wilderness - After two years of advocacy and collaborative work, we reached a settlement with the City of Aspen that will result in the City moving its conditional water rights for dams on Castle and Maroon Creeks out of these special valleys. And we've just begun to fight and organize against a proposal to build a dam that could inundate the Holy Cross Wilderness and divert Western Slope water to the Front Range.

Defending the North Fork watershed - The North Fork Valley has been constantly threatened by oil and gas leasing and drilling, and coal mine expansion into wild roadless forests. We've been watchdogging these proposals and fighting back across the board with policy expertise, legal challenges and community activism.

Advocating for wildlife in the Eagle Valley - We've galvanized a movement in the Eagle Valley to stop the Forest Service from granting a developer permission to pave a forest road through some of the last best deer and elk winter range.