



WildEarth Guardians--2022 Summer Legal Interns/Externs (Stipends Available)

WildEarth Guardians is now recruiting for 2022 Summer Interns

About WildEarth Guardians

WildEarth Guardians is a west-wide nonprofit environmental advocacy organization headquartered in Santa Fe, NM with offices in Denver, CO, Missoula, MT, Boise, ID, Seattle, WA, and Tucson, AZ. With a 30-year history of bold environmental action, we wage innovative legal, political, and grassroots campaigns to protect and restore wildlife, wild places, wild rivers, and community health in the American West.

Why spend the summer with WildEarth Guardians?

Guardians advocates in the courts, in the halls of Congress, and on the ground in western communities to secure stronger protections for landscapes, rivers, imperiled species, and healthy communities. We are known for developing and executing cutting edge litigation that serves as a lever for sweeping policy changes to combat the climate crisis, secure wildlife coexistence, restore living rivers, and stop extinction. Our work is housed in four program areas:

Wildlife. The wildlife program advocates for the intrinsic right of native species to thrive across the West. With a focus on protecting biodiversity and ensuring coexistence between native carnivores and people, we work to eliminate cruel and indiscriminate killing tools as well as to implement systemic change to ensure that wildlife is protected according to the best available science.

Wild Places. The wild places program works to protect and connect the West's vast landscapes. With a focus on federal public lands, we work to reclaim places for the wild and reconnect wildlife habitat and waterways for ecosystems to thrive.

Wild Rivers. The rivers program advocates for living rivers across the American West. With a focus on the Rio Grande, Colorado and Willamette River Basins as key geographies, we work to safeguard clean water, revive dynamic flows, reform western water policy, protect imperiled fish, wildlife and plants, and restore healthy and sustainable aquatic and riparian ecosystems to support all life.

Climate and Energy. The climate program advocates for a fossil-fuel free American West. We work to expose the true cost of oil and gas extraction and leverage environmental and health liabilities to advance climate justice.

Who are we looking for as Summer Legal Interns?

Legal Interns/Externs work under the supervision of one of our twelve attorneys on WildEarth Guardians' program and legal teams to assist with various aspects of advocacy, case development,

and litigation. Legal interns are typically charged with conducting legal and factual research, crafting comments, drafting litigation memorandums and pleadings, reviewing administrative records, editing and cite-checking legal briefs, and helping develop case strategy and legal theories.

We are looking for self-motivated applicants with excellent research and writing skills and a demonstrated commitment to, or interest in, public interest environmental advocacy. Students who have completed their second year of law school are strongly preferred, but truly exceptional students who have completed only one year of law school may be considered. Foundational coursework or applied experience in environmental, federal public lands, natural resources, and administrative law is a plus. We prefer all summer interns join our team for 10-12 weeks during the summer and provide a minimum of 30 hours per week.

Internships are generally unpaid, but certain summer intern positions will come with a \$5,000 stipend. We are willing to work with interns to secure outside funding for positions that do not have a stipend. For-credit externship opportunities may be available in coordination with the applicant's university or law school.

The following positions are currently available:

- **Rivers Legal Intern—Stipend Available (1)** (Remote and/or Denver, Colorado) -- The Rivers Legal Intern will have the opportunity to work in the Wild Rivers Program under its director and attorney Jen Pelz. The rivers program work will focus on protecting and restoring flows in western rivers (focusing on the Colorado River, Rio Grande and Willamette River) and reforming western water policy through strategic litigation. Substantive work may include case development, legal research, and strategic legal advocacy under the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and other relevant state water and land use laws and regulations.
- **Wild Places & Wildlife Legal Intern(s)—Stipend Available (1)** (Remote) -- The Wild Places and Wildlife Legal Interns will have the opportunity to work in the Legal Program under staff attorneys, Marla Fox and Jennifer Schwartz with a focus on litigation that supports the Wild Places and Wildlife Programs. Substantive work will include factual record review, legal research and analysis, developing and researching legal claims under the National Forest Management Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Administrative Procedure Act, and more.
- **Climate & Energy Legal Intern—Stipend Available (1)** (Remote and/or Santa Fe, New Mexico) -- The C&E/General Litigation legal intern/extern will work with Staff Attorney Daniel Timmons and Legal Director Samantha Ruscavage-Barz. Substantive work may include factual record review, legal research and analysis, and developing and researching legal claims under the National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Air Act, Endangered Species Act, and more.

How to apply

To apply, please go to Guardians' internship page on our website and apply through the linked form. The application requires you to fill out the required information on the form (including providing 2

references) and upload the following: a cover letter, resume, unofficial transcript, and one recent writing sample (preferably not more than ten pages that primarily reflects your work). Please indicate your preferred position(s), office location(s), and interest area(s) on the form. Interested students may apply to multiple opportunities/offices through one form. Please make your preference(s) clear.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Link to website: <https://wildearthguardians.org/about-us/internships/>