WILDLIFE SPECIALIST
POSITION DESCRIPTION

Reports to: Wildlife Biologist
Dates: May 20 (slightly flexible) – August 24 (slightly flexible)

POSITION CONCEPT
Wildlife Specialists assist the Wildlife Biologist with the implementation of Philmont’s wildlife management program. They provide education and training for both staff and participants in Philmont’s bear procedures and other wildlife policies. They assist with population and habitat monitoring. They respond to wildlife concerns and incidents throughout Philmont’s backcountry and base camp. They maintain communication with Philmont’s seasonal department managers regarding the wildlife program. They collect information from many sources and compile their data into a comprehensive end of season report.

PHILMONT REQUIREMENTS

- Be over 18 years of age.
- Be able to acquire a Philmont Driving Permit
- Be able to hike to remote worksites, carrying loads up to 60 pounds.
- Be on-call during nights and weekends to assist with nuisance bear reports
- Be prepared for strenuous workdays that include hiking and working on rough terrain, in all weather conditions, for 9-12 hours.
- Meet the BSA height/weight requirements for high-adventure activities.
- Provide a completed Annual Health and Medical Record upon arrival at Philmont.
- Exemplify the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures described in the Philmont Staff Guidebook and presented during staff training.
- Maintain a clean and approachable look, adhering to the standards for personal appearance described in the Philmont Staff Guidebook.
- Maintain a friendly, helpful, and respectful attitude while providing extraordinary customer service to Philmont’s participants, visitors, and employees.
- Become familiar with all materials supplied prior to the camping season.
- Become familiar with all pertinent Philmont policies and procedures.

DESIRED EXPERIENCE
Wildlife Specialists should have a solid foundation in the basic theories and principles behind wildlife management. This level of knowledge is usually gained by the end of the third year of an accredited bachelor’s degree program in wildlife biology or a related field. Experience using GPS/GIS, previous field work, as well as ability to perform research, both in the field and electronically, is desired. Wildlife Specialists must be able to make mathematical calculations that may include multiplication, division, percentages and averages. A strong ability to understand directions both oral and written along with the ability to communicate with participants is a must in this position. Wildlife specialists should be comfortable speaking to groups of up to 30 people.
DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be an active participant during Conservation Training. Remain engaged, ask questions, and volunteer to help as needed.
- Be constantly alert to the welfare and safety of scouts, advisors, coworkers, and anyone else in the vicinity of your work site. Demonstrate good situational awareness.
- Be a good team member, sharing the responsibilities of daily crew operations with your coworkers.
- Maintain a clean and organized office and workshop space
- Under the direction of the Wildlife Biologist, establish performance goals for the summer.
- Prepare educational material to convey Philmont’s Bear Procedures and be ready to deliver that information in a clear and concise manner.
- Maintain data and records in the database in an organized fashion.
- Become proficient in the use of GPS units and mapping in ArcGIS.
- Become an expert in safe and proper storage of smellables in the backcountry in order to reduce the risk of bears in camp.
- Become proficient in the identification of species (flora and fauna) on the ranch.
- Properly maintain assigned tools, equipment and vehicle to the standards of the Philmont Conservation Department.
- Enthusiastically carry out the mission of Philmont Scout Ranch by completing other duties as assigned by any member of the Conservation Leadership Team or other Philmont Managers.

Training Opportunities
The Wildlife Specialist will gain hands on experience in helping create and conduct field work doing population counts, and flora inventory. GPS/GIS skills will be furthered by hands on training as well as course-based teaching.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Philmont Scout Ranch: http://philmontscoutranch.org/philmont.aspx

For questions about this position and other conservation job opportunities, contact:
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