



Staff Attorney

Western Resource Advocates (WRA) has spent over 25 years protecting the West's land, air, and water. We use law, science and economics to craft innovative solutions to the most pressing conservation issues in the region. Some of our current priority efforts across the West include advancing clean energy, protecting rivers, improving air quality, and stopping oil shale and tar sands.

WRA is seeking a Staff Attorney based out of our Salt Lake City office to focus on protecting Utah and the Intermountain West's land, air and water, using law, science, media outreach. Specifically, the Staff Attorney will work to:

- Protect the Great Salt Lake, restore the health of Utah's national forests, and halt unnecessary and dirty oil shale and tar sands development;
- Improve air quality along the Wasatch Front and in the Uintah Basin;
- Protect the health of Western rivers and lakes so they sustain abundant fish and wildlife, remain vibrant parts of our communities, support robust economies, and provide a variety of recreational opportunities;
- Transition electricity production away from fossil fuels toward clean, renewable energy and advance energy efficiency in order to prevent catastrophic climate change, improve air quality, and protect public health; and
- Protect threatened landscapes and wildlife across the West.

The Staff Attorney will report directly to the director of WRA's Utah office.

Job Responsibilities

- Litigation
 - Develop and research new cases.
 - Litigate and manage cases from beginning to end as lead or sole counsel; work with co-counsel.
 - Prepare retainer agreements; draft pleadings, memoranda, briefs and other court documents.
 - Undertake legal research; prepare and present exhibits, expert testimony and evidence of standing.
 - Review and analyze administrative records and other relevant documents.
 - Write litigation memos for Board review.
 - Keep current with relevant legal developments.
 - Develop relationships with other public interest attorneys and activists.
- Administrative Advocacy
 - Submit comments on proposed state or federal agency actions.
 - Write letters to encourage agency action.
 - Submit document requests to government agencies.
 - Review and catalog agency documents.
 - Develop relationships with agency staff and decision makers.
 - Build and maintain relationships with clients and conservation partners.

- Policy Development & Program Back-up
 - Write “white” papers on specific legal and conservation topics.
 - Work with WRA program teams to develop and implement strategy to reach WRA’s policy goals.
 - Coordinate with conservation community to further WRA’s mission and objectives.
 - Assist Development Team to develop new funding proposals and reports to current funders.
 - Work with other WRA staff in Utah office to ensure smooth administrative functioning of office.
 - Complete CLE and other requirements to maintain bar membership.
 - Work closely with WRA Communications staff to develop media strategy to frame our issues through traditional and social media and to ensure that conservation successes are recognized among appropriate targets and constituencies.

Job Qualifications

- Law degree and bar membership in Utah and federal courts. Bar membership in other states desirable.
- Ability to independently litigate a case from beginning to end.
- Expertise in clean water, clean air, wildlife, and/or public lands law.
- Excellent writing, communication, research and oral advocacy skills.
- Commitment to positively representing the organization.
- Experience participating in environmental or advocacy campaigns.
- A team player and self-starter that is passionate about preserving and protecting the West’s land, air, and water.
- Initiative, good judgment, good time-management skills, and a strong work ethic.
- Ability to work both independently and in collaboration with others.

Salary and Benefits

Competitive salary based on relative experience. WRA’s excellent benefits package includes health, dental and vision coverage, a 401(k) retirement plan, life & disability insurance, and paid vacation and sick leave. Position is a full-time exempt position.

How to Apply

Email the following to hr@westernresources.org with “Staff Attorney” in the subject line:

- Compelling cover letter explaining your interest in the position and our organization;
- Resume;
- Writing sample;
- Recent salary history or requirements; and
- Three references.

Please be sure to mention where you saw the job advertised.

Deadline to Apply: September 15, 2016

Western Resource Advocates is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, marital status, amnesty, or veteran status.

www.westernresourceadvocates.org