Field Attorney

POSITION SUMMARY

Are you a lawyer who’s keen to travel about and argue for a place you love? This job may be the ticket.

Our field attorney’s work is at the heart of our legal program’s docket outside the courtroom. If you’re hired, you’ll elevate our legal ground game. You’ll survey the wild places you’re fighting for. You’ll navigate through tamarisk and government-agency offices, from Ogden to Kanab, and Flagstaff to Moab. You’ll learn from Native leaders. You’ll study the plans and projects that may harm the places we advocate for. And you’ll put all those elements together to write comments on those proposals, to represent the Grand Canyon Trust in administrative proceedings, to drop pithy quotes for the papers, and to otherwise press our case for the Colorado Plateau.

On the org chart, you’ll report to our most senior staff attorney, but you’ll work closely with both of our Denver-based staff attorneys, our program staff, and our communications team. Your docket will cover a wide range of issues affecting the plateau, from defending our national monuments to wrangling with livestock grazing, uranium mining and milling, pinyon and juniper removal, recreation-driven challenges, and land-management-plan revisions.

WHO WE ARE

Since 1985, the Grand Canyon Trust has been a leading voice in regional conservation on the Colorado Plateau. The Trust works tirelessly to protect the Colorado Plateau’s remarkable landscapes, while respecting the rights of its Native peoples. We are a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to ensuring the region’s public lands, native species, communities, and cultures thrive. Learn more at www.grandcanyontrust.org

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Spearhead our work monitoring and analyzing proposed land-management plans and projects in southern Utah and northern Arizona and draft comments on those we classify as a priority.
- Develop strong relationships with colleagues, land managers, Native government officials and community leaders, conservation partners, local officials, and others to push forward the Trust’s strategic goals.
- Collaborate with our staff attorneys to identify and prioritize high-leverage administrative appeal and litigation opportunities.
- Represent the Trust in appeals before the Interior Board of Land Appeals and in the Forest Service environmental appeals process.
- Assist staff attorneys with litigation in the state and federal courts, depending on your interests and our needs.
- Assist program staff with communicating about our work and talk to the media as needed.

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

- You think through legal problems sedulously and write about them clearly.
- You have at least four years’ experience working on legal matters involving public lands; tribal lands; or environmental, energy, natural resources, or equivalent subjects.
• You have a solid understanding of administrative law and of federal public-lands or environmental law.
• You can work well with people whose perspectives and backgrounds differ, colleagues and non-colleagues alike.
• You’re willing to travel, averaging somewhere around 5–7 days a month out of the office, with fluctuation around that mean.
• You’re admitted to and in good standing with a state bar and willing to become a member of the bar where you live.
• You demonstrate a commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion and the ability to integrate these commitments into your work.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

• Experience working with Native governments and Native communities.
• Familiarity with federal Indian law or relevant tribal law.
• Familiarity with Colorado Plateau wildlands, ecology, or politics.

LOCATION

Anywhere on the Colorado Plateau is open to discussion, though we think you and we will be happiest if you work near other staff of the Trust, which currently includes Flagstaff, Durango, Torrey, Gallup, and Salt Lake City.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

$72,000–$90,000, commensurate with experience and qualifications, The Trust provides individual health and dental insurance, generous vacation and sick leave, paid holidays, disability, 401(k) retirement benefits, professional development funds, and paid parental leave.

COVID-19

COVID vaccination is required for this position. If you are in need of a reasonable accommodation, contact: kdudine@grandcanyontrust.org.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

The Trust is an equal-opportunity employer, and we are committed to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in every aspect of our organization. We work actively to ensure against discrimination in employment, recruitment, advertisements for employment, compensation, termination, upgrading, promotions, and other conditions of employment against any employee or job applicant on the basis of identity including but not limited to: race, ethnicity, gender, parental status, national origin, age, religion, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. Applicants of all identities are encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

The Trust has retained the services of ThinkingAhead Executive Search. Please submit your résumé and expression of interest to: Jessica Martinez at jmartinez@thinkingahead.com.