Position: The Wilderness Society Fellow

Location: Native American Rights Fund

Closing Date: Open until filled with interviews beginning in August.

Description: The Native American Rights Fund is a non-profit national Indian law firm representing Indian tribes, organizations, and individuals in Indian law matters of major significance. NARF’s main office is in Boulder, Colorado, with additional offices in Washington, D.C. and Anchorage, Alaska. NARF is looking for a current law clerk or recent law school graduate with a strong background in federal Indian law and public service for a one-year fellowship to focus on tribal sovereignty and land use, starting in the fall of 2023.

Job Summary: Work with NARF Staff Attorneys and NARF clients, in cooperation with other partners as applicable, to develop materials related to empowering tribal sovereignty and governance within the current rubric of public land management in the U.S. The successful candidate will help increase understanding of how cooperative agreements are being used to share power in decision making between federal, state, and tribal governments on public lands. The work will result in memos or white papers on issues concerning legal solutions or policy positions that are advantageous in creating more just and effective cooperative practices.

In addition, the successful candidate will assist in developing a special collection at the University of Washington Law Library, consisting of cooperative agreements, scholarship, manuals, case studies, statutes, regulations, templates, and other technical information to facilitate learning across a broad spectrum of engagement on the topic. A goal of the project is to curate and populate a special collection of various materials helpful to researching the growing body of work on cooperative agreements between tribes and non-tribal governments for public lands. As such, interest in both Indian Law and legal information science is a plus.

The position is for one year and is not a guarantee of full-time NARF employment after the end of the fellowship.

Qualifications: J.D. from an ABA-accredited law school; a license to practice law in any state or the ability to sit for the July 2023 or February 2024 bar exam; and experience working with American Indian or Alaska Native Tribes. Demonstrated ability to collaborate and work with multiple teams to organize priorities and maintain schedules. Demonstrated ability/interest related to policy, outreach, and public speaking.

Salary & Benefits: Salary is $90,000 annually, plus a generous benefits package includes bar dues, vacation leave, health, dental and vision insurance, and paid time off including sick leave and...
medical/disability leave. Additionally, there is an employer contribution to employee 401K plan (eligible after one year of service), employer paid group life insurance, accident insurance, and short-term and long-term disability insurance.

Application Procedure:
Submit resume, cover letter, names and contact information of three professional references, writing sample, and law school transcript by email to: Kevin Cheng at kcheng@narf.org.

NARF is a non-profit national Indian law firm that provides legal representation to American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes throughout the United States. NARF is an Equal Opportunity Employer. American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.