

TEXAS WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT**



POSITION TITLE: Conservation Legacy L.A.N.D.S. Educator

DEADLINE: April 15, 2020

START DATE: June 2020

TERM: One-year contract (renewal option)

LOCATION: Midland/Odessa, Texas Education Agency (TEA) Region 18 (Andrews, Brewster, Crane, Culberson, Ector, Glasscock, Howard, Jeff Davis, Loving, Martin, Midland, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, Ward, and Winkler counties)

COMPENSATION: Year-round/Full-time

REPORTS TO: Director of Youth Education and Director of Education – L.A.N.D.S. Intensive

ABOUT TEXAS WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION'S CONSERVATION LEGACY

Conservation Legacy programs empower and educate Texans with knowledge of fundamental, science-based ecological principals, foster a connection to the land, and facilitate natural resource literacy by creating tangible relationships in the outdoors. Conservation Legacy programs deliver the private lands stewardship message using hands-on, science-based interactive lessons. **Learning Across New Dimensions in Science (L.A.N.D.S.)** Outreach and Intensive is a suite of science-based interactive educational programs for K-12 to utilize in formal and informal educational venues.

The guiding objectives are to:

- (1) Foster a personal connection to wildlife and the land;
- (2) Facilitate agricultural and natural resource literacy by providing meaningful learning experiences within the outdoors;
- (3) Educate and empower Texans with scientific knowledge of fundamental ecological principles that apply to their life every day.

GENERAL POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This position will involve working with all aspects of the Conservation Legacy (CL) Program in accomplishing the educational goals and objectives of the L.A.N.D.S. Outreach and Intensive Programs of the Texas Wildlife Association (TWA) and Texas Wildlife Association Foundation (TWAF) in West Texas.

The L.A.N.D.S. Educator is part of the Conservation Legacy Program team and is responsible for 1) developing, promoting, and deploying TWA's natural resource and private land stewardship lessons to youth (Grades K-12) in formal and informal educational venues and to formal and informal educators via workshops, trainings and professional networks; 2) creating awareness, imparting knowledge and appreciation of our natural resources and the importance of land stewardship to students and educators; 3) instilling an understanding of practical land management measures that promote wildlife conservation; 4) imparting skills, values, techniques, and responsibilities by promoting natural resource conservation education opportunities on private lands; 5) recruiting, educating, and providing leadership to volunteer leaders, urban residents, and youth participants about natural resources stewardship; and 6) providing, facilitating, coordinating, and highlighting events and activities of the Texas Wildlife Association.

L.A.N.D.S. OUTREACH RESPONSIBILITIES:

- (1) Promote, deploy, evaluate, and assist in the development of "Wildlife by Design" classroom presentations for youth Grades K-8.
- (2) Coordinate and facilitate Outreach Teacher Workshops for formal and informal educators in the specified counties of West Texas.
- (3) Promote the programs of Conservation Legacy and the Texas Wildlife Association.

- (4) Participate in local events to promote the programs of the Texas Wildlife Association.
- (5) Establish professional connections with area organizations and institutions to increase awareness of TWA and its programs.
- (6) Collaborate with CL Team to develop and enhance the Outreach Program.

L.A.N.D.S. INTENSIVE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- (1) Establish, deploy, and evaluate the programs (classroom quail necropsies, field investigation days, and teacher and volunteer recruitment and training) of L.A.N.D.S. Intensive in TEA Region 18.
- (2) Work with the L.A.N.D.S. Intensive staff in the design and implementation of educational programs across the state.
- (3) Communicate with and support formal educators as they integrate the L.A.N.D.S. Intensive lessons into their year-long classroom studies.
- (4) Recruit, train, and work cooperatively with volunteers that assist with the implementation of classroom quail necropsies and field investigation days. Volunteers may be government agency employees, private biologists, or individuals.
- (5) Establish relationships and work with Texas landowners, educators, hunters, and businesses, conservation organizations, outdoor industries, landowners, government agencies, media, and individuals to promote all TWA and TWAF programs, and provide a highly visible, clear perception to the general public about our mission, philosophy, and values.
- (6) Work cooperatively with volunteer leadership and volunteer workers, donors and sponsors, government agency employees and leaders, and members of academia at all levels.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

- (1) Estimated 40 hours per week.
- (2) Variable working hours including some evenings and weekends, with overnight stays.
- (3) Will work out of home office with available storage for equipment.
- (4) Frequent travel to and from activities and events, utilizing personal vehicle.
- (5) Will be working in classrooms and the outdoors, as well as public events.
- (6) Physical requirements of the position may include: lifting supplies up to 50 pounds, standing or walking for extended hours, conducting lessons in outdoor environments subject to the elements of weather and wildlife.
- (7) Use of personal computer, printer, and associated office supplies.
- (8) Must possess personal, appropriate vehicle, capable of pulling small cargo trailer (5,000 lbs. max).
- (9) Must possess or be able to obtain a Texas Class "C" vehicle operator's license.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

Bachelor's degree in wildlife, natural resources, or education with a science background.

License:

Must possess or be able to obtain a Texas class "C" vehicle operator's license.

Experience preferred:

- (1) Passion for teaching youth in classroom and outdoor settings.
- (2) Knowledge of natural resources, natural resource issues, Texas flora and fauna, and the human/wildlife interface.
- (3) Experience in working with school administrations, youth, teachers, and volunteers.
- (4) Familiar with basic computer programs (Adobe, Word, PowerPoint, Publisher, Excel, Google docs).
- (5) Knowledge of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards.
- (6) Experience teaching in formal and informal settings.
- (7) Experience in planning and implementing presentations, events and workshops.
- (8) Experience in working with volunteers and coordinating program committees.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- (1) Knowledge and personal experience related to hunting, conservation, land management, natural resource education and youth development.
- (2) Skilled oral and written communication, knowledge of written English, including grammar and punctuation with an ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing in a courteous and professional manner.
- (3) Ability to deliver professional written and oral presentations to, educators, landowners, youth and general public.
- (4) Ability to manage time effectively, organizing, and completing multiple tasks simultaneously.
- (5) Ability to demonstrate good work habits including being reliable, punctual, efficient and able to follow instructions.
- (6) Ability to be a 'self-starter,' work independently with minimal supervision, and exercise initiative in accomplishing tasks.
- (7) Ability to use personal computers with compatible word processing, spreadsheets, and database management software including Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, have Internet, and email experience.
- (8) Ability to maintain records and files and assist with preparation of reports and correspondence.
- (9) Ability to work cooperatively with educators, staff, members, and volunteers in a team environment.
- (10) Ability to assist with TWA's and TWAF's educational opportunities in a team environment.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- (1) Resume and list of three (3) references must be submitted.
- (2) Must complete and pass a background check.
- (3) Contract must be signed upon hiring.

SEND LETTER OF APPLICATION AND RESUME TO: Kassi Scheffer, Texas Wildlife Association, 3660 Thousand Oaks Dr., Ste. 126, San Antonio, Texas 78247. Phone: 210/826-2904. Fax: 210/826-4933 or email to kscheffer@texas-wildlife.org.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

