



Position Title: Conservation Science Intern (social science)

Eligibility: Eco Canada Youth in Natural Resources program

Start/end dates: 1 April 2022-March 31, 2023 (12 months)

Salary range and benefits: \$48,500-\$50,000 CAD per year + Y2Y's extended benefits after 3 months

Location: In or near Canmore, Alberta strongly preferred; Canada-wide remote options considered

Deadline to apply: 21 February 2022

THE ORGANIZATION

The Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y) is a joint Canada-U.S. not-for-profit organization with a mission to connect and protect wildlife habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive. We are the only organization dedicated to securing the long-term ecological health of this entire region. We take a scientific and collaborative approach to conservation, and highlight and focus on local issues that affect the region. Since 1993, Y2Y has worked with more than 460 partners to stitch together this landscape, including scientists, conservation groups, landowners, businesses, government agencies as well as First Nations and Native American communities. More information: www.y2y.net.

THE POSITION

Y2Y seeks a *Conservation Science Intern* to support social science research in the Yellowstone to Yukon region. We seek a young professional interested in combining research and analytical skills in the social sciences with a passion for understanding the relationships among people and the environment. The intern will be supervised by Dr. Devin Holterman (Y2Y-UNBC postdoctoral fellow) and be part of Y2Y's *Integrating Science and Conservation* program led by Dr. Aerin Jacob.

The context for this position is to assist building an evidence-based research program in the human dimensions of conservation throughout the Yellowstone to Yukon region to support conservation decision-making by Y2Y and its partners. This position is well-suited for a recent undergraduate or graduate student with interests in social science and wildlife conservation in North America. The successful intern will be highly motivated and independent with experience conducting literature reviews, writing for a range of audiences, organizing and leading meetings, and working collaboratively with diverse teams. Ideally, the intern will have experience with social science research methods, including, but not limited to, interviews and focus groups. Opportunities may arise to develop additional skills, including potentially contributing to written products (reports, peer-reviewed articles), presenting at scientific conferences, and/or engaging with partners and interested parties.

The intern will undertake a detailed orientation and onboarding process and become familiar with Y2Y organizational priorities and how different teams work together. They will have the opportunity to learn about working in an international not-for-profit organization through joining Y2Y staff meetings and assisting with internal reporting processes. Additional professional development and/or learning opportunities may be available, e.g., science communication.

PRIMARY TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Working with Y2Y's Integrating Science & Conservation team, the intern will:

- Review academic and grey literatures on specific conservation social science topics (e.g., sense of place, human-wildlife conflict, environmental justice, recreation ecology)
- Assist with analysis and writing of state-of-knowledge review for human dimensions of conservation in the Yellowstone to Yukon region
- Assist with the creation and design of a social science research agenda for Y2Y (e.g., help with interviews, focus group discussions, and/or questionnaires)
- Assist with creating tools and disseminating information to internal and external audiences
- Organize and manage bibliographic information relevant to key themes in the Yellowstone to Yukon and similar regions, using reference management software (e.g., Zotero)
- Assist in managing various databases; organize, maintain, and archive data
- Assist with other related tasks as needed

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Have a keen interest in the human dimensions of conservation
- Experience with, and understanding of, social science concepts and research methods including, interviews, focus groups, surveys, among others
- Experience with environmental and/or conservation organizations, research and/or advocacy
- Experience managing and citing bibliographic references, e.g., reports, books, journal articles
- Demonstrated written and oral communication skills
- Strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Strong organizational skills and excellent attention to detail
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

These skills are not requirements for the position but would be an asset.

- Undergraduate or graduate degree in human geography, sociology, anthropology, political science, history, or a related social science or interdisciplinary field
- Experience in wildlife, conservation, and relationships among people and nature, ideally in the Yellowstone to Yukon region
- Experience in communicating with non-specialist audiences through a variety of means (e.g., email, telephone, reports, presentations)
- Familiarity with GIS (e.g., ArcGIS or QGIS) and statistics; mapping skills
- Experience as part of a remote team (i.e., where people work in different locations)

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT

This position is funded through Eco Canada, which stipulates that interns must:

- Be 30 years of age or younger (i.e., not 31 years old) at the start of employment;
- Be unemployed, under employed, or a student/recent graduate;
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person on whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act; and,
- Have a valid Social Insurance Number and be legally entitled to work in Canada.



Y2Y is an equal opportunity employer and committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in our workplace and in science, conservation, and society. We strongly encourage applications from members of groups that are underrepresented and/or excluded from these sectors, including but not limited to Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

LOCATION, HOURS OF WORK, AND SALARY

The intern will ideally be in Canmore, Alberta or be able to commute to the Y2Y head office in Canmore on a regular basis (e.g., one day per week). Canada-wide remote work options may be considered for outstanding applicants with reliable internet access, a proven track record of working independently and with remote teams, and occasional ability to travel (e.g., 1-3 times per year). As this position requires some in-person work, full COVID-19 vaccination is required upon start date.

This is a full-time position (37.5 hours/week, roughly standard business hours) for 12 months between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023. Flexibility for a slightly later start date may be possible (e.g., 1-2 weeks).

The salary range is \$48,500-50,000 CAD commensurate with experience. Extended benefits include 3 weeks of vacation, and eligibility to join Y2Y's optional medical/dental coverage and RRSP matching program after three months.

TO APPLY:

Please review Eco Canada's Youth in Natural Resources program eligibility and complete their assessment before applying: <https://www.eco.ca/internship/internquiz>.

Send a 1-page cover letter and CV/resume outlining your background, experience, and interest in the position. Make sure that you 1) describe your skills and experience in relation to the primary tasks and responsibilities, required qualifications, and additional qualifications if applicable; 2) state your preferred work location; and 3) confirm your eligibility for Eco Canada's Youth in Natural Resources program. You can include other information that you want us to know that is relevant to your candidacy.

Applications should be one PDF named "SocSciIntern_FirstnameLastname.pdf" and sent to careers@y2y.net with the subject line "Social Science Intern Application" by 21 February 2022.

Questions about the position can be directed to Dr. Devin Holterman, devin@y2y.net. Interviews are expected to be held in early March 2022, with a decision made shortly thereafter. Short, preliminary interviews may be held via conference call or Zoom. Final interviews will be held via Zoom or in-person in Y2Y's Canmore office (pending COVID-19 situation).

If you anticipate needing accommodations for any part of the application or interview process you may contact, in confidence, Robyn Barton, HR Consultant at robyn@y2y.net.