



Position title: Conservation Science Associate

Eligibility: Eco Canada-Youth in Natural Resources program

Start/end dates: 1 May 2022-30 April 2023 (12 months), with possibility of extension

Salary range and benefits: \$55,000-\$57,000 CAD plus Y2Y's benefits after 3 months

Location: In or near Canmore, Alberta preferred

Deadline to apply: 14 March 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 >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 Associate* to support conservation science and related administration and communication across the Yellowstone to Yukon region. This new position will be part of the Integrating Science and Conservation (ISC) team led by Dr. Aerin Jacob, Y2Y conservation scientist.

The associate will support Y2Y's conservation scientist and the ISC team to conduct, convene, and communicate research within and about the Yellowstone to Yukon region and help to integrate science into management, practice, and policy. Current projects include conservation planning, coexistence, human modification and ecological integrity, connectivity, recreation ecology, the human dimensions of conservation, species at risk (e.g., wolverine, caribou, grizzly bear), and the interface of science and policy. We seek a well-organized, detail-oriented person who takes initiative, works well with others, and feels a deep sense of satisfaction from teamwork. In addition to providing support for the ISC program, the associate may be asked to contribute to logistics, program management, and integration for specific portfolios of work. This is primarily an office-based position with occasional travel.

The successful applicant will take part in Y2Y's orientation process, including becoming familiar with organizational priorities and how different teams work together. They will join Y2Y staff meetings and ISC team meetings and learn about the practices and processes of working in an international not-for-profit organization. Additional professional development may be available as opportunities arise.

PRIMARY TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Working with Y2Y's conservation scientist, the associate will:

Support conservation science:

- Synthesize information from primary and secondary sources about conservation topics and places of interest in the Yellowstone to Yukon region, primarily in writing
- Liaise with scientists and practitioners in non-profits, government, academia, and elsewhere

- Assist with cooperatively managing databases (e.g., spatial data, references)
- Conduct occasional, desk-based research projects about the Yellowstone to Yukon region. This could include acquiring, managing, and analysing spatial and/or quantitative data from various sources such as IUCN, Nature Serve, GBIF, conservation data centres, and partners.

Administration and communication:

- Provide administrative support to the conservation scientist and ISC team, including scheduling, permits, contracts, licenses, and tracking project plans, funding, and milestones
- Assist with writing and/or editing, including briefing materials, funding proposals, and reports
- Assist with internal and external communication about Y2Y and conservation science

Other:

- Assist with other tasks to support Y2Y's conservation scientist and the ISC program

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

- At least three years of experience¹ in conservation research, practice, and/or policy, ideally about large landscapes and terrestrial wildlife in western North America
- Excellent organizational and time and project management skills, e.g., plan and prioritize competing demands, maintain high degree of accuracy, pay attention to details
- Experience efficiently evaluating, synthesizing, and summarizing scientific information about multiple topics from a variety of sources, primarily in writing
- Experience working independently and in teams (in-person or remote)
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, and problem-solving skills
- Strong computer skills

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

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

- Undergraduate or graduate degree in wildlife biology, ecology, geography, or a related field
- Experience providing administrative support for team leader and/or with project coordination
- Interest in and effective communication with non-specialist audiences (particularly in writing but also via public speaking, graphic design, data visualization, or other means)
- Experience with GIS, R, and/or Python

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT

This job is funded via Eco Canada's Youth in Natural Resources program, stipulating 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 university 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.

¹ Experience can include combination of training + work (e.g., two years Master's + one year work)



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, SALARY & BENEFITS

This position is ideally based at the Y2Y head office in Canmore, Alberta. Remote locations in parts of Alberta or British Columbia may be considered for outstanding applicants, provided that the applicant has reliable internet access and experience working independently and with remote teams. Some travel will be required (e.g., staff and team retreats, partner and team meetings). As this position requires 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 May 2022 and 30 April 2023, with the possibility of extension. Flexibility for a slightly later start date may be possible (e.g., 1-2 weeks).

The salary range is \$55,000-57,000 CAD per year. Benefits include three weeks of paid vacation and eligibility to join Y2Y's optional medical/dental coverage and RRSP program after three months.

TO APPLY

Please complete the assessment to ensure you are eligible: <https://www.eco.ca/internship/internquiz>.

Send a cover letter, CV/resume outlining your background, experience, and interest in the position, and contact info for three professional references. Make sure that you clearly 1) describe and demonstrate how your skills and experience relate to the primary tasks and responsibilities and qualifications; 2) explain your preferred location, and 3) confirm eligibility for Eco Canada's Youth in Natural Resources program. You can include other information that you want us to know relevant to your candidacy. Applications should be one PDF titled "ConservationScienceAssociate_FirstnameLastname" with the subject "Conservation Science Associate application" emailed to careers@y2y.net by 14 March 2022.

Questions about the position can be directed to Dr. Aerin Jacob, aerin@y2y.net. Interviews will be held in early April 2022, with a decision shortly thereafter. Preliminary interviews may be held via phone or Zoom. Final interviews will be held via Zoom or in-person in Canmore (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.