

JOB DESCRIPTION

HIGH DESERT MUSEUM

POSITION

JOB TITLE:	Wildlife Specialist (mammals)	DIRECT SUPPORTS:	Curator of Wildlife
DEPARTMENT:	Wildlife	DIRECTLY SUPPORTS:	N/A
CLASSIFICATION:	Full-time, exempt	SALARY RANGE:	\$49,440 + DOE

JOB SUMMARY

The person in this position is directly responsible for the care of mammals including bobcats, porcupines, and North American River otters, and assists as needed with the care of other animals across taxa. Experience with animal husbandry, training, and handling is essential. Maintains public-facing exhibits, conducts public programs with ambassador animals, delivers engaging interpretive talks on natural history, and works across taxa throughout the department as part of a dynamic team.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS (in order of priority with the percentage of time spent on each)

60%	Animal Wellbeing • <i>Maintains and cares for a variety of animals according to established protocols.</i> • <i>Conducts daily husbandry tasks including but not limited to, cleaning, diet preparation, feeding, watering, observing, training, records-keeping, enclosure/habitat maintenance and facility opening and closing duties</i> • <i>In collaboration with Senior Wildlife Specialists, develops and implements training and enrichment plans for assigned animals to accomplish goals related to wellbeing, husbandry, and responsible presentation of wildlife</i> • <i>Inventories feed and supplies, as necessary</i> • <i>Maintains equipment, support facilities, and keeps work areas clean and organized</i>
20%	Exhibit Maintenance • <i>Collaborates with curators on researching, planning, renovating and/or constructing of permanent and changing exhibits related to wildlife, and/or development of new exhibit elements</i> • <i>Maintains wildlife habitats with an emphasis on the health, wellbeing, and safety of the animals that live there</i> • <i>Conducts basic maintenance inside and outside of exhibits including but not limited to clearing brush, trimming trees, watering, raking, shoveling, and snow and leaf removal</i>
10%	Wildlife Programs • <i>Collaborates on the development of conservation focused interpretive programs under the guidance of the Curator of Wildlife and Education Department</i> • <i>Interprets the natural history of the high desert region for museum visitors through both scheduled daily talks and informal opportunities to engage with museum visitors</i> • <i>Presents or supports the presentation of raptor free-flight and other live-animal programming utilizing a holistic perspective in alignment with the Museum's mission</i>
10%	Additional Duties • <i>Complies with all Museum policies, procedures, and safety regulations.</i> • <i>Assists with training of seasonal employees, interns, and volunteers under the guidance of the Senior Wildlife Specialist</i> • <i>Contributes to and supports the Museum's various Accreditations</i> • <i>Assist with museum-wide events, such as Free Days, fundraising gala, etc.</i> • <i>Other duties as assigned</i>

QUALIFICATIONS

EDUCATION/ CERTIFICATIONS	• Associate or bachelor's degree in biological science or related discipline. Equivalent hands-on work experience/knowledge may be considered in lieu of a degree • Certified Interpretive Guide Certification preferred
EXPERIENCE	• 3 years progressive experience working with animals in human care in a zoological setting • Preferred experience working with wildlife. Familiarity with North American mammals is desirable (wild and/or captive populations)
SKILLS/ ABILITIES	• Enthusiasm for learning about and staying current on all aspects of wildlife and human relationships within the landscape of the High Desert region • Ability to interpret wildlife biology, natural history, and conservation for the public • Knowledge of basic animal husbandry and associated standards for managing wildlife in human care • Ability to learn methods for managing and handling a variety of animals • Understanding of animal training theory, with emphasis on operant learning and positive reinforcement techniques and how to apply them • Enthusiasm for maintaining Association of Zoos and Aquariums, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services, United States Department of Agriculture and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife standards in a museum setting • Desire to work with a variety of taxa including, but not limited to, reptiles, fish, invertebrates, birds, and mammals • Capable of thorough records keeping. Familiarity with Species360 Zoological Information Management System (ZIMS) is preferred • Familiarity with and ability to use basic hand tools for groundskeeping and exhibit maintenance • Ability to follow specific oral and written instructions. • Ability to communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing. • Excellent people skills and willingness to establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with colleagues and coworkers. • Able to work both autonomously and in a team environment • Willingness to work flexible hours and days, including weekends and holidays, as necessary
PHYSICAL ELEMENTS	• Ability to perform physical tasks including but not limited to, lifting fifty pounds, carrying, stooping, bending, extensive walking, crawling, climbing, and working outside in the extreme weather conditions typical of Central Oregon.
EQUIPMENT USE	• Computer and phone use. Light power tools

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above job description in its entirety and can perform all the stated requirements.

Employee Name

Signature

Date