Are you a post-secondary student with a love of nature and science? Are you passionate about inspiring people with amazing facts about the natural world? As a Wetland Naturalist, you will motivate, inspire, and connect children and adults to the wonderful world of wetlands by providing quality environmental education programs and front country excursions at the Wildlife Interpretation Centre.

About the Location

Located south of Kootenay Lake in the Kootenay Rockies Region of southern British Columbia, the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area (CVWMA) is a magnificent 17,000-acre internationally designated Ramsar wetland. Students, active family groups, biologists, researchers, and naturalists are some of our biggest client groups. To support the visitor experience and help create positive long-lasting memories and interest in wetland conservation, our Wildlife Interpretation Centre offers educational exhibits, engaging curriculum-based school programs, stewardship programs, canoe and walking tours, nature trail programming, a hands-on science lab, theatre space, and a nature-inspired gift shop.

Each season, we offer post secondary students the opportunity to train as Wetland Naturalists and join us in showcasing this special wetland place. For more information about the CVWMA and our team, please visit us at http://www.crestonwildlife.ca.

Responsibilities

- Facilitate and lead school and youth programs at the Wildlife Interpretation Centre
- Interpret natural history and conduct guided canoe, gallery, walking, and bird watching tours
- Develop and deliver interpretive programming for day camps and special events
- Effectively explain the purpose and management techniques of the CVWMA
- Assist in gift shop daily tasks and support volunteers
- Prepare daily wildlife sighting reports
- Perform key holder and maintenance duties around the Wildlife Interpretation Centre

Qualifications

- Currently enrolled in and returning to a post-secondary training program in a related field, including natural and environmental sciences, biology, education, resource management, tourism and recreation
- Enthusiasm for learning and teaching about the natural world and a love of the outdoors
- Creative, flexible, motivated and outgoing with strong verbal communication skills
- Experience working and interacting with the public, children and youth in an engaging and enthusiastic way
- Experience with program development and delivery related to the environment
- Experience in outdoor recreation activities including bird-watching, canoeing, and hiking
- Valid Standard First Aid certificate and BC Driver’s License (or provincial equivalent)
- Valid Criminal Record Check under the Criminal Records Review Act for working with Children & Vulnerable Adults
Training

During the first week of employment, Wetland Naturalists receive mandatory intensive training covering: CVWMA’s mission, history and conservation; wetland biodiversity and bird ecology; marsh management; and interpretive strategies and educational values. Training and learning opportunities continue throughout the season as new programs are added and the wetland landscape and wildlife changes. Job shadowing, team teaching, supported delivery, and observed and evaluated practices are utilized to provide feedback and create a well-rounded experience to the Naturalists.

Position Dates

The Wetland Naturalist position is full-time seasonal from May 1 to September 2, 2017 (35-hour work week/schedules overlap weekends). Candidate must be available from May 1st through 5th for mandatory training.

Wage

$14.00 per hour (temporary, full-time position)

Closing date: March 3, 2017

Please apply with your resume, cover letter, and two references specifying how your skills and experience would make you an ideal candidate for a Wetland Naturalist position.

Submit your documents to: Laura Brandon, Acting Education and Communications Coordinator
• Email: education@crestonwildlife.ca
• Post: Box 640, Creston, BC, V0B 1G0

Note: only those applicants chosen for interviews will be contacted. No phone calls please.