

## **Animal Care Manager**

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### **Position Summary:**

Reporting to the Curator, the Animal Care Manager will be responsible for assisting with all aspects of husbandry of ambassador wolves and the critically endangered wolves participating in the Saving Animals from Extinction (SAFE) program. The position offers a unique opportunity to contribute to the Center's vital conservation efforts.

### **Responsibilities:**

Animal Facilities Maintenance (50%):

- Walk fence lines daily
- Manage road kill acquisition and handling
  - o Pull deer from freezer and put into thaw area as needed
  - o Pick up deer from roads / properties
  - o Assist with alternative meat pick up as needed
- Manage all freezer spaces (inside and out)
  - o Cleanliness per husbandry and USDA standards
  - o Meat organization so as to maximize space
  - o Electrical and or freezing issues
- Manage all facility issues that are directly related to the animal enclosures or their general care
  - o Compromised fences or gates
  - o Tree issues
  - o Electrical issues
  - o Digging
- Camera management
  - o Assist IT staff as needed with camera work and maintenance
  - o Accompany IT staff when they need to enter SAFE wolf enclosures
  - o Assist moving ambassador wolves when IT needs to enter ambassador enclosures
- Maintain all capture boxes
  - o Perform monthly inspection. Make sure they are all functioning and in working order.
  - o Clean and remove all debris, insects, rodents etc.
  - o Build and/or manage the building of new/additional capture boxes as needed
- Ensure gates open/close properly
  - o Freeze/thaw causes gates to shift
  - o Mud builds up against gates making them difficult to open/close
- Snow removal and ice management for all wolf areas
  - o Roads that lead to wolves
  - o Corridors in-between enclosures
  - o Pathways to all wolves
  - o Gates
- Maintain corridor roads in-between enclosures
  - o Mud management
  - o Run off management

- Spring/Summer/Fall plant management– mowing, weed whacking so that fence lines can be walked and inspected
- Ground apron management
  - Maintain wood chips, dirt, gravel and/or sod on all ground aprons and service pens. Ensuing paws cannot get caught
- Ambassador pools
  - Clean & maintain
- Den and furniture management and maintenance
  - Ensure dens are safe and maintained
  - Ensure all furniture (platforms, ramps etc.) are in working order and safe
  - Create new dens and furniture as needed
  - Maintain substrate inside dens (woodchips, dirt)
- Manage Animal care vehicles (ATV, pick-up truck, Mule, Polaris)
  - Ensure they are all in working order
  - Ensure all receive regular maintenance
  - Ensure gas cans are always filled
  - Manage all break downs and problems
- Fencing
  - Manage new construction when needed
  - Manage fence company when on site

#### Animal Care & Husbandry (40%)

- Support all SAFE wolf captures (health checks, semen collection, AI etc.)
- SAFE wolf care
  - Feeding and watering as needed
  - Working knowledge of feeding schedules
  - Working knowledge of wolf packs, individuals and pack dynamics
  - Assist with all veterinary procedures
  - Assist with all captures
  - Manage summer water tubs for SAFE wolves
    - Put out in late spring, keep clean and full, remove in early fall
    - Acquire new tubs as needed
  - Available to assist with all SAFE wolf emergencies
    - Working knowledge of WCC veterinarians and SAFE husbandry protocols
    - Back up when Curator away
  - Assist with heated bucket installation in the fall and removal in the spring
- Ambassador wolf care
  - Assist with feeding and medicating as needed
  - Eventually join ambassador animal care team (\*\*not until Nikai passes away because of his fear of men\*\*)
    - Ambassador pup nanny
    - Assist with cleaning enclosure
    - Assist with veterinary procedures
  - Available to assist with all ambassador wolf emergencies

- Working knowledge of volunteer veterinarians and husbandry protocols
- Assist with wolf transfers as needed
  - Picking up / dropping off wolves
  - Retrofitting crates for transfer

#### Other Duties (10%)

- Support volunteer clean up days for SAFE enclosures
  - When needed/at opportunistic times
  - Removal of bones, scat, debris
  - Manage / clear overgrown areas
- Program snacks
  - Pre-pack snack
  - Make sure program snacks are available for educators

#### Qualifications

- Must be able to lift 50 lbs / drag 100 lbs
- Prior facilities maintenance and management experience a plus
- Time Management and strong organizational skills
- Ability to operate a tractor
- Basic knowledge of ATV, Mule, Polaris and Pick-up truck
- Ability to drive large pick-up truck (must have valid Drivers License)
- Demonstrated problem solving and critical thinking skills
- Vendor management experience (for an outside contractor)
- Ability to use mower / weed whacker / chain saw
- Tactical experience with general contracting, repair work and maintenance

This opportunity comes with competitive benefits and an excellent work environment.

The salary for this position starts at \$50,000.

*The Wolf Conservation Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*