



Director of Federal Partnerships Western Energy Project

The Western Energy Project (WEP) works to protect our treasured landscapes in the American West by ensuring that any development of oil and gas from our federal public lands is done in a responsible manner. We support the preservation of ecologically and culturally important areas, the adoption of common-sense protections for our water, air, land, and wildlife, and the safeguarding of opportunities for Americans to enjoy our public lands. WEP is a project of Resources Legacy Fund (RLF). RLF works with donors to conserve land, water, and ocean resources while advancing healthy communities and social equity. We engage economically and ethnically diverse communities as we foster new funding and better policies for environmental protection and climate change adaptation.

General Description of Role:

The Western Energy Project seeks a highly creative and skilled individual to be our Director of Federal Partnerships. Reporting to the Executive Director and working in coordination with all WEP team members, the Director of Federal Partnerships will promote landscape protections, policy reforms, and related efforts concerning the federal onshore oil and gas program with partners located in Washington, DC, including developing and executing strategies to educate and influence key decision makers and decision processes in Congress, and, where possible, within the Administration. The Director of Federal Partnerships will also work to identify and engage new partners to advance and/or protect organizational priorities, and will develop education and advocacy materials, target lists, and talking points, and will conduct other activities in support of organizational priorities. The Director of Federal Partnerships will need to work strategically to move WEP goals forward through different, and possibly simultaneous, avenues. Additionally, the Director of Federal Partnerships must feel comfortable working with Tribal nations and groups of varying political affiliations. The Director of Federal Partnerships is a full-time, exempt position based in Washington, DC. Travel is required. Additionally, a willingness to register as a lobbyist, if needed, is also required.

Specific Duties Include:

- Working closely with the WEP Executive Director on all of WEP's DC-based government relations and partner activities.
- Educating Congressional offices regarding oil and gas development in the inter-mountain west, including helping to share WEP grantees' perspectives directly with those offices.
- Promoting and protecting WEP's priorities with Congress and the administration.
- Ensuring any efforts seeking to undermine WEP priorities are responded to quickly and strategically.
- Coordinating with Congressional, administration, and organizational allies on hearing development and execution, including witness identification, travel planning and logistics, and testimony/hearing preparation.
- Planning and overseeing grantee fly-ins and other DC-focused events that promote WEP landscape protection priorities, policy reform priorities, and on-going oil/gas leasing engagement.
- Collaborating with other organizations' legislative affairs teams when there is a shared interest in the outcome. This includes the opportunity to co-lead some Hill-related multi-organization activities.
- Working closely with WEP staff to ensure timely development and execution of federally-focused strategies for all WEP issues. This will include writing specific portions of WEP campaign plans and editing social media guidance, LTEs, and op-eds, for example.
- Providing WEP and WEP's grantees and partners with federal strategy analysis as it relates to WEP priorities.



- Keeping the WEP team, WEP's grantees, and other WEP partners educated about and engaged in Hill-related activities and opportunities, including, but not limited to, general Hill dynamics and happenings, committee hearings, floor proceedings, and other activities that are relevant to WEP's work.
- Representing WEP in meetings with WEP partner groups, grantees, and contractors.
- Maintaining current WEP partnerships in Washington, DC, with the administration and Congressional offices, and conservation, environmental, and Tribal organizations. Developing new relationships and partnerships.
- Regularly exercise good, independent judgment and discretion in matters of significance as they relate to WEP campaigns.
- Developing and executing strategies to engage with the administration on advancing WEP's campaigns, whenever such opportunities present themselves.
- Performing other duties in support of WEP campaigns, as directed by the WEP Executive Director and Deputy Director.

Qualifications:

- A minimum of four years of legislative policy experience working in Congress. This experience should include working directly with elected officials, a solid understanding of the legislative and appropriations processes, and a keen sense of the politics and strategy required for success under current circumstances, including specific examples of leadership roles in recent conservation wins.
- An understanding of Executive branch processes.
- Policy background and related experience in public lands and natural resources fields, including a familiarity with or a willingness to learn the legal regime applicable to public lands oil and gas issues.
- Willingness to register as a lobbyist, if needed.
- A commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of the position.
- Outstanding writing, editing, proofreading, and verbal and written communications skills.
- Proven ability to effectively organize and manage multiple responsibilities while paying attention to the details.
- Demonstrated experience developing, writing, and executing plans to promote conservation outcomes in Congress, including strategic documents, one-pagers, timelines, and hearing questions.
- Strong problem-solving and interpersonal skills, including a positive attitude and commitment to contributing to creating a fulfilling and rewarding work atmosphere.
- Ability to work effectively and in collaboration with diverse partners, as well as independently.
- An innovative and solutions-oriented way of tackling challenges, including demonstrated resourcefulness.
- Highly-motivated and ability to work independently to demonstrate initiative in support of WEP team goals.
- Effective under high pressure situations with tight deadlines in a fast-paced, team-oriented environment.
- Able to prioritize conflicting demands across all WEP activities.
- Ability to work effectively with a small, geographically-dispersed team.
- Humble with a commitment to learning and professional development, yet confident in approach.
- Strong computer skills, including Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint).



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Desired Characteristics:

Given the Director of Federal Partnerships' responsibilities, a sense of humor, experience working with a diversity of stakeholder groups and communities, and intellectual curiosity would complement the qualifications described above.

Competitive Salary and Benefits:

Starting salary between \$100k-\$120k commensurate with related work experience and qualifications. In addition to competitive salaries, we offer a comprehensive benefit package that includes medical, dental, and vision insurance, a 401k retirement plan, and generous paid time off.

Procedure for Candidacy:

Resources Legacy Fund embraces the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion both internally in our hiring process and organizational culture, and externally in our grantmaking and related practices. We are an equal opportunity employer, and welcome applications from people of all backgrounds, cultures, and experiences. We know that our work is enriched by the varied voices and perspectives of all staff members, so we are committed to recruiting, welcoming, developing, and retaining individuals from diverse backgrounds.

Interested individuals should send a cover letter, resume, and references to the following individual: Jess Maher, WEP Executive Director, jess@westernenergyproject.org. Application materials will be accepted on a rolling basis starting June 15, 2021, and closing on August 15, 2021. Successful candidates will participate in discussions with individual team members and then the entire team together. Depending on local safety protocols at the time and individual comfort level, there may be a desire for an in-person meeting that would require travel during the final stages of the search, which will likely be taking place in early fall, 2021. We would like to welcome our new team member at some point this fall, and no later than January, 2022. Please note that due to COVID-19, RLF offices are currently closed, and we remain a fully remote organization until further notice.