About us: The Cascade Forest Conservancy (CFC) is a nonprofit organization that strives to protect and sustain forests, streams, wildlife, and communities in the heart of the Cascades through conservation, education, and advocacy. We represent over 12,000 members and supporters who share our vision for a forest where wild places exist, and wildlife thrives.

General overview: CFC seeks a part-time or full-time summer Policy Intern to support our Policy Manager in environmental policy and advocacy work within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and surrounding areas. This position is currently remote due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but preference is to applicants in the Portland, Olympia, and Seattle metro region. On occasion, dependent on COVID-19 regulations, may have the opportunity to take a field trip to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The position is 20-40 hours a week for 8–10 weeks from May 10 – July 24 (start and end dates are flexible within this time frame). This is an unpaid position; however, class credit is encouraged if available. CFC will reimburse travel expenses if necessary.

Duties: For 35 years, advocacy and policy have been at the heart of CFC’s work in the Southern Washington Cascades. Under the supervision of the Policy Manager, the Policy Intern will assist with various aspects of advocacy, policy, and campaigns. Primary responsibilities include conducting legal and factual research, analyzing policies, attending forest collaborative meetings and forest policy meetings, and developing research memos. Current projects the Policy Intern may work on include:

- Mount St. Helens: No Place for a Mine
- Spirit Lake: Save the Pumice Plain
- Federal timber sales
- State and private timber sales
- Forest management collaboratives
- Public lands designations

Required qualifications: CFC is looking for self-motivated applicants with excellent research and writing skills and a demonstrated commitment to, or interested in, public interest environmental advocacy.

Preferred qualifications: Applicants who have completed their first or second year of law school or are currently enrolled in a policy graduate program are strongly preferred. Genuinely exceptional applicants not enrolled in graduate programs with work experience in environmental policy and advocacy may be considered. Foundational coursework or applied experience in environmental, federal public lands, and/or administrative law is also strongly preferred. Familiarity with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), and National Forest Management Act (NFMA) is a bonus.

To apply, please submit the following to lucy@cascadeforest.org: cover letter, resume, one recent writing sample (no longer than five pages), and two references.

CFC is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse and inclusive staff. We actively work to ensure fair and equal treatment of our employees, interns, and constituents regardless of differences based on culture, socioeconomic status, race, marital or family situation, gender, age, ethnicity, religious beliefs, physical ability, or sexual orientation.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. We encourage you to apply as soon as possible if you are interested in a position.