



2022 McKinney Climate Fellows Program Conservation easement & Indiana bat mitigation position

Who We Are

Conservation Law Center (CLC) is an independent, non-profit organization that provides legal counsel to conservation organizations and works to improve state and federal conservation law and policy. The organization works with clients on a wide range of transactional, policy, and litigation matters pertaining to both regional and national conservation issues. CLC also operates the Conservation Law Clinic in partnership with the Indiana University Maurer School of Law in Bloomington. In that capacity, the Center works with student interns on its live projects, advising clients and researching legal and policy solutions on regional and national conservation issues.

Sycamore Land Trust (Sycamore) and Central Indiana Land Trust (CILTI) are both 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that protect land in Indiana by owning lands that are core areas for conservation and by serving as the holder of conservation easements.

POSITION SUMMARY

The McKinney Climate Fellow will be placed within Conservation Law Center and will be responsible for taking the lead on select initiatives and assist with sustainability, climate, and community resiliency projects. The Fellow will work with Sycamore Land Trust and Central Indiana Land Trust and specifically provide support for development of materials related to these organization's efforts to serve as the conservation easement holder on land included as compensatory mitigation projects that are part of the Indiana bat In-Lieu Fee Program.

Duties will include:

- This fellowship will culminate in the production in final draft form of four guidance documents to be used by Sycamore and CILTI so they can be more effective partners on Indiana bat mitigation projects (including mitigation banking and incidental take permits). These guidance documents include:
 - A legal research memo that describes the most current law on conservation easements with a focus conservation easements that are part of Indiana bat mitigation projects.
 - An internal guidance document that explains the entire process of how mitigation projects are set up and credits are determined and valued.
 - An external best practices guidance document to be given to potential partners that desire to partner with Sycamore and CILTI.
 - Draft of a model conservation easement specifically for Indiana bat mitigation projects.
- Attend the Boot camp May 16 – 20, 2022
- Attend weekly (virtual) “Lunch and Learns”, Wednesdays from 12:00pm-1:30pm
- Submit weekly Canvas reports over the course of the fellowship

Qualifications

- Must be a current Indiana University Maurer School of Law student

- Legal research skills including case law, Federal Register, U.S. Code and federal agency rules and regulations.
- Legal memo drafting and contract drafting.
- Experience and or coursework in federal natural resource law, public lands law, environmental law, and administrative law.
- Ability to take initiative in communicating with representatives of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other partners.
- Ability to work with multiple supervisors.
- Equity mindset/lens and other critical indicators related to DEI in climate work are preferred

Compensation

Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship through the Environmental Resilience Institute. The Fellow will work full time for 10 weeks, beginning May 30, 2022, and ending August 5, 2022.

Feedback and evaluation

The Fellow will be given regular feedback from staff on progress and performance. Success in the fellowship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional and timely manner. The Fellow should learn how this organization identifies its sustainability priorities, effective principles of communication, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The Indiana Climate Fellows Program supports the continual advancement and development of diverse, inclusive and equitable spaces. Indiana climate change solutions should be equitable in implementation, and projects with equity considerations are encouraged to reduce climate change impacts on marginalized communities in the state.

Application instructions

To apply for this position, complete an application on the Environmental Resilience Institute's website. If you have questions about the program or any of the positions available, email Danni Schaust at danmcphe@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Monday, February 14, 2022.