

## 2022 Summer Fellowship Job Description

Organization:	<b>Palmer Land Conservancy</b>
Organization City/Primary Work Location:	Fountain
Website URL:	<a href="https://www.palmerland.org/">https://www.palmerland.org/</a>

Organization Mission Statement (and any other relevant information you feel would be helpful to understanding the organization):

Palmer Land Conservancy exists to ensure that everything we love about the Colorado good life – its natural beauty, locally grown food, outdoor recreation – can be enjoyed by everyone now and into the future.

### Fellowship Overview

Fellowship Overview:

Palmer’s Fellow works as a part of a team to ensure Palmer’s mission is fulfilled to the highest standards. The fellow reports to Palmer’s Land Stewardship Manager but is an important part of the Palmer Team during their time at the organization and will have an opportunity to work with multiple staff members. The fellow will be invited to staff meetings and other events throughout the summer.

This position will be:

In person

A typical week as a PIFP fellow in our office will look something like this:

The PIFP fellow will spend the beginning of the week contacting landowners to set up site visits or “interviews” on the phone and will review documentation from previous years monitoring activities. The fellow will visit the properties (assuming it is safe to do so in 2022) to capture photos of the property and to document the property’s condition. The fellow will then compile information from the site visit and the landowner “interview” to create an annual monitoring report for each property they are assigned. The fellow will also have an opportunity to participate in other Palmer activities, gathering a wider breadth of knowledge from staff members in other departments and programs. A typical week will include work Monday through Friday from 8-5 with a break for lunch. During field work, it is important to start earlier in the morning to avoid Colorado’s afternoon thunderstorms. This is all subject to change depending on the

status of the pandemic during the summer of 2022. We minimized field work during 2021 and may implement these policies again this year. If this is the case, most monitoring activities will be completed via satellite imagery.

What support or professional development can the fellow expect from their supervisor, the team/staff, or the organization?

Palmer is committed to daily conversation and instruction with the fellow about the urgency and methodologies of land conservation. The fellow will be invited to join staff on excursions to significant conservation properties and visit other conservation properties independently. Previous fellows have returned from their mid-summer PIFP gatherings eager for feedback about their performance.

Additional benefits offered to the fellow:

N/A

## Fellowship Details

Primary Responsibilities:

Primary responsibilities include completing monitoring assessments of both private and public lands that are conserved by Palmer. For each property assignment, the fellow will review previous years' reports, contact park rangers and private landowners to set up site visits, visit conserved properties, document the current conditions of the property through photographs and GPS locations, and prepare written reports and maps based on the information gathered. The fellow will also have an opportunity to draft content for social media and the Palmer website, and to assist other staff members with additional Palmer projects.

Through this fellowship, you will build capacity in our organization by:

Palmer's summer fellow is a critical member of the team who provides much needed capacity during our annual monitoring season. We rely on 4 monitoring consultants, our Land Stewardship Manager, and the monitoring fellow to ensure we fulfill our legal obligations of monitoring every property we have conserved. Palmer holds conservation easements on more than 140 properties, conserving nearly 140,000 acres across 10 counties in southeastern CO.

The ways in which you will contribute to societal systemic change during this fellowship:

The fellow's work at Palmer is focused on stewarding conserved lands in southeastern Colorado. Our county loses open space at a rate of 2 football fields per minute. Conservation and perpetual stewardship of this precious resource is one of the best legacies we can leave to future generations. Open space has become even more

important as society is more isolated and suffering from exacerbated mental health issues due to the pandemic.

If applicable: You might also engage in direct service and impact your community in the following ways.

Required qualifications/skills:

- Must possess the physical ability to hike through the varied landscapes of southern Colorado and to travel via vehicle over rough terrain including narrow and winding natural surface roads, ranch roads, and high elevation sites, sometimes in remote locations and in varying weather conditions
- Must have some familiarity with, or the ability to learn to use a handheld GPS device to travel to pre-determined photo point locations.
- Must possess problem-solving and critical thinking skills in both office and field environments
- An ability to work within deadlines, both independently and as a part of a team or with outside stakeholders
- Ability to juggle multiple projects while maintaining focus and delivering high-quality products
- Ability to use typical computer software such as Microsoft Word and Excel, Adobe, Google sheets and docs, etc.
- Must possess a driver's license and have a good driving record.

Preferred qualifications/skills:

- Experience or knowledge of ArcGIS or Google Earth
- Coursework or other experience in natural resources
- Familiarity with southern Colorado landscapes and communities
- Experience in ecological field work including identification of flora and fauna in CO

What skills/competencies will fellow learn/enhance during this experience?

Natural resources field work, ArcGIS/Google Earth software experience, cartography, use of GPS device, botany and wildlife identification skills, etc. The fellow will be involved in conversations regarding private lands conservation, outdoor recreation and access, agriculture and water, and other important issues and practices in SE CO. The fellow will develop confidence establishing contacts with private landowners, park and open space rangers, and city and county administrators. The fellow will hone communication skills preparing property reports and contributing to PLC's written and social media communications.

Our advice for those who apply:

The staff and fellows who do best at Palmer care deeply about conservation and this region. Apply for this job if you want to work for an organization who is making a big difference in your community and if you have a desire to be a part of this effort.

Additional information applicants should know about the organization and/or this position:

The fellow will have access to the Palmer vehicle. They must have a driver's license and a clean driving record.

Supplemental question to be answered in your application if interested in this fellowship:

Why do you want to work for Palmer Land Conservancy and what do you think you do better than any of our other candidates (this could be a traditional "work" skill, or something non-work related/fun!)