



FireWise of Southwest Colorado Job Opportunity: Executive Director

FireWise of Southwest Colorado, a regional wildfire organization, is hiring a full-time Executive Director. This rare opening will provide the right candidate the opportunity to lead this highly respected nonprofit in its growth as it brings together many partners to develop fire adapted communities across this beautiful region. This active position requires days in the field and frequent meetings with partners in the region. FireWise has a new office in The Commons in Durango but there is flexibility to work some from a home office.

Organizational Description

FireWise of Southwest Colorado promotes wildfire preparedness, prevention and mitigation activities across Archuleta, La Plata, Montezuma, Dolores, and San Juan Counties in Colorado using a unique Neighborhood Ambassador Program. As a collaborative focal point for wildfire information, FireWise:

- Educates homeowners about wildfire risk and promotes activities that help communities and homeowners increase their adaptation to wildfire;
- Promotes wildfire risk reduction through community preparedness and planning;
- Provides funding to assist landowners with hazardous fuels reduction and defensible space projects; and
- Supports cooperator efforts to collaboratively achieve common wildfire-related objectives.



The organization's staff includes several part-time staff including an Assistant Director, three County Coordinators, an Administrative Coordinator, and a CWPP Coordinator. FireWise operates under the 501c3 umbrella of the San Juan Mountains Association, the educational partner of the local U.S. Forest Service and BLM, and has a Steering Committee to provide guidance and oversight.



About the Job:

Interest in wildfire mitigation and preparedness, along with a strong desire for healthy forests and clean water, have led to several strong collaborative efforts in southwest Colorado. In addition to its Neighborhood Ambassador Program and a variety of incentive programs for homeowners, FireWise facilitates the Dolores Watershed and Resilient Forest (DWaRF) Collaborative in Montezuma County and participates as a key partner in the

San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership and the 2-3-2 Partnership based in Archuleta County. As a core member in the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network, FireWise strives to continually engage new partners and share and learn from others. Over the past two years, FireWise has been engaged with a team of wildfire researchers that study resident's perceptions of their wildfire risk, and we are a founding member of Fire Adapted Colorado, a state-wide group of wildfire-centric organizations promoting learning opportunities and mentorship of new organizations. We are looking for candidates with great people skills that possess the ability to present information and training to a diverse audience including policy makers, agency personnel, professional wildfire managers and mitigation contractors, and homeowners. Being willing to think outside the box and create unique programs to engage residents and the community are also a must. Excellent written, speaking, and presentation skills are required, in formal and informal settings. A key piece of the job will be creating sustainability for the organization so strong skills in grant writing, fundraising and partnerships will be beneficial.

Want to Learn More?

If this job appeals to you, review the job description and associated benefits at <http://www.southwestcoloradofires.org> or <http://www.sjma.org>. Completed applications are due by August 18, 2017 and should be submitted electronically to <mailto:jobs@southwestcoloradofires.org>. FireWise of Southwest Colorado is an Equal Opportunity Employer.