



Director Rewilding France (1 FTE)

Background

Rewilding France was founded in 2020 with the mission to make more space for nature and wildlife in France and to restore nature in the Dauphiné Alps, which spans approximately 450,000 hectares between the cities of Grenoble, Montélimar, Gap, and Sisteron, in the historical province of Dauphiné.

The Dauphiné Alps are already an example of rewilding and the return of wildlife in Europe (natural river regimes, successful animal reintroductions including deer, ibex, and vultures, passive restoration of vast natural forests, etc.), contributing to its attractiveness and dynamism. Rewilding France aims to extend and highlight this.

Rewilding France works closely with Rewilding Europe to realize the vision, mission, and goals of Rewilding France. In 2023, a partnership was signed between the two organisations based on a shared vision for a long-term rewilding strategy in the Dauphiné Alps. The Director plays a key role in implementing Rewilding Europe's 2030 strategy and will work closely with the Rewilding Europe team to achieve this.

Role

The Director's main role is to oversee and coordinate all aspects of development, design, planning, implementation, management, fundraising and reporting of the Dauphiné Alps as one of the potential new rewilding landscapes of Rewilding Europe, which serve as an example for rewilding and the return of wildlife on a European scale.

Leads the team and works closely with the Rewilding France board of directors and the Rewilding Europe team, particularly the technical coordinator (Head of Landscapes) and thematic managers (Wilder Nature, Nature for People, Engagement).

Interacts and establishes productive relationships with a variety of partners such as government institutions, local authorities, media, hunters, farmers, foresters, landowners, natural space managers, associations and NGOs, donors, politicians, opinion leaders, entrepreneurs, and others.

Main responsibilities

The main responsibilities of the Director are:

- Drive the Dauphiné Alps forward in all its aspects, in line with Rewilding Europe's Strategy 2030, and deliver tangible and meaningful rewilding outputs and impact at landscape scale.
- Design and develop of overall vision, 5-year strategy, objectives, deliverables, activities, yearly work plans and budgets, including timely and adequate (technical and financial) reporting and monitoring of the rewilding results and impact.

- Develop and maintain close relationships and constructive dialogue with key stakeholders, and establish and formalise strategic partnerships with these on rewilding, communication or enterprise development.
- Work very proactively to identify and secure rewilding, business, and communication opportunities on a day-to-day basis, and “make them real” by concrete steps and actions.
- Work with the team to create an enabling environment for a successful Dauphiné Alps, e.g. in terms of policy, legislation, and create a strong network between the on the ground work and local authorities.
- Further build the rewilding team and supervise all staff and ensure their timely delivery of results and impact.
- Explore possibilities for land access through e.g. user - or concession rights, and ensure concrete and meaningful rewilding and enterprise opportunities in the Dauphiné Alps.
- Work closely with the Head of Landscapes and the thematic Heads and managers in Rewilding Europe central team, to maximise their input, use lessons learned and ensure linkage with centrally led initiatives and activities.
- Develop a fundraising strategy for the Dauphiné Alps, develop and submit funding proposals to potential donors and work with the central team to attract (substantial) funding for delivering the 5-year strategy.
- Identify opportunities to scale up activities and models from priority areas (within the larger rewilding area) to a wider landscape (even outside the larger rewilding area).

Key qualifications

- Master’s degree of higher in natural resources management/conservation, ecology or related fields.
- At least 8 years of relevant professional experience in the conservation sector or related fields.
- Proven experience with project management, leading, supervision, planning and reporting.
- Proven track record in fundraising and grant management, both local/national and international level.
- Strong local network in the country/region in related fields.

Skills and competencies

- Strategic thinker, capable of leading and motivating colleagues and partners around the rewilding vision and objectives.
- Proven leadership and stakeholder engagement skills, or business development background.
- Very result-oriented, pro-active, hands-on approach, outgoing and entrepreneurial attitude.
- Strong skills in working with local authorities, government institutions, local entrepreneurs, landholders, conservation managers and others.
- Excellent interpersonal and lobbying skills, including the ability to develop and maintain strong relationships and partners at all levels, including with local field staff, local communities, government agencies, scientific community, and the for-profit sector.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in both French and English.
- Fully supports and endorses the Rewilding Europe vision and overall strategy.
- Adheres to values like passionate & optimistic, challenging and inspiring, credible and accountable, persevering and delivering results.

Information and procedure

We invite interested applicants to send a cover letter and a CV, in English, before July 14, 2024 to HR@rewildingeuropa.com, with candre@rewildingfrance.org in copy, and the title “Director Dauphiné Alps” in their email.

Any questions regarding this position should also be sent to these email addresses.