



Policy Advocate

Gilsland Farm Audubon Center | Falmouth, Maine

Maine Audubon is a widely respected, statewide conservation organization with headquarters in Falmouth, Maine. Our mission is to conserve Maine's wildlife and habitat through conservation, education, and advocacy. **We are seeking an enthusiastic and effective Policy Advocate who is passionate about conserving Maine's wildlife and wildlife habitat, and is eager to *drive our work to advance climate action and clean energy solutions.***

This position will work collaboratively with Maine Audubon biologists, ecologists, educators, communication specialists, and attorneys to develop and execute policy priorities at the local, state, and federal levels. The Policy Advocate will be responsible for spearheading our organization's efforts to transition Maine to a clean energy future—leading our work to advance solar, wind, and other renewable energy technologies and infrastructure while minimizing impact to wildlife and habitat, as well as supporting our advocacy efforts in areas such as land use planning, habitat connectivity, and environmental justice, among others. An ideal candidate will have demonstrable policy analysis, campaign building, and strategic communication skills, as well as political acumen. Most importantly, the ideal candidate will be skilled in building and maintaining strong relationships, both internally and externally, including with elected officials, natural resource professionals, Maine Audubon members, and conservation and climate partners.

This position is based out of Maine Audubon's headquarters in Falmouth (Gilsland Farm), with frequent, required travel to Augusta, occasional travel to other parts of the state, and opportunities to work both onsite and remotely. Candidates must reside in Maine or be willing to relocate. For reference, Advocacy Department staff currently spend an estimated 33% of their time working in Augusta and other parts of the state, 33% onsite at Gilsland Farm, and 33% remote averaged over the year. Throughout the legislative session, staff spend up to 90% of their time in Augusta and other parts of the state.

Essential Duties:

- Work collaboratively with Advocacy, Conservation, Education, and Communication Department staff to develop policy priorities in alignment with the organization's Strategic Plan and priority projects
- Lobby on behalf of Maine Audubon's policy agenda at the state and federal level, before legislative and executive branches.
- Draft and present legislative testimony.

- Review and analyze administrative agency rulemaking proposals as well as draft and present public comments.
- Represent Maine Audubon on legislatively-appointed committees or other committees tackling issues consistent with Maine Audubon's mission, with a specific focus on climate and clean energy issues. This includes but is not limited to renewable energy siting and permitting, transmission issues, and environmental mitigation.
- Coordinate and collaborate with conservation organizations and nontraditional partners to achieve shared objectives.
- Actively collaborate with the Communications Team to advance Maine Audubon's policy priorities through strategic communications, including email, Maine Audubon's quarterly magazine, social media outlets, and earned media.
- Assist with managing grassroots outreach to members, supporters, and new activists.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree and 3 years related experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Experience with legislative, policy, and/or planning initiatives at the state and/or federal level, including strategic communication strategies.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills and experience, preferably working collaboratively with a variety of groups and stakeholders from diverse backgrounds, including government agencies, elected officials, and partners.
- Highly organized, detail-oriented, self-motivated, and disciplined.
- Familiarity with Maine climate and clean energy law and regulation.

Physical Requirements: Able to work occasional evenings, weekends, and travel; operate computers and other program equipment; and sit or stand at a desk for extended periods of time.

Salary Range: \$65,000-\$70,000

Benefits:

- 15 accrued vacation days annually, 9 sick days, 3 personal days
- 12 Paid Holidays
- 403(b) plan with 4% employer contribution – *no match required*
- Short Term/Long Term Disability and Life Insurance paid by employer
- Health Insurance (HPI with HSA) paid by employer for employee only
- Flexible Spending Account and Dependent Child Care Account available

To Apply: Please send a cover letter and resume to careers@maineaudubon.org with Policy Advocate in the subject line. We will begin reviewing applications on June 21, 2024. We encourage you to apply even if you do not meet 100% of the requirements.

Maine Audubon is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or any other aspect of identity protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.