

Madison Passages Community Liaison

Background

Along US 287 and MT 87, from 2014 to 2024, 1,120 animals were documented to have been killed by vehicles between Norris and Reynolds Pass. These losses amount to \$26.7 million in personal injury and property damage. This number increases to \$40 million if the intrinsic value of wildlife - which considers the ability of a species to remain on the landscape - is included.

Due to a shared concern for highway safety of both people and wildlife in the Madison Valley, Madison Passages was formed. Madison Passages is a partnership of organizations and individuals who live, work, and recreate in the Madison Valley. We believe that the best solutions are community-led, and that a partnership grounded in local knowledge and collaboration is best equipped to address and resolve wildlife-vehicle conflicts.

The partnership includes Preserve Reynolds Pass (PRP), Madison Valley Ranchlands Group (MVRG), Henry's Fork Wildlife Alliance (HFWA), Greater Yellowstone Coalition (GYC), Center for Large Landscape Conservation (CLLC), Yellowstone to Yukon (Y2Y), and National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA).

Rooted in Madison Valley, we work to improve safety for people and wildlife on US 287 and MT 87 by increasing awareness of wildlife-vehicle collisions and advancing community-born solutions that increase safety for humans and maintain and restore wildlife connectivity along this critical highway corridor.

Position Overview:

Madison Passages seeks a Community Liaison who is passionate about our mission and is excited about local outreach, relationship-building, and information-gathering. It is strongly preferred that the Community Liaison be located within or have easy access to the Madison Valley and be familiar with the roads and communities of the Madison Valley. This position is key to Madison Passages' efforts and will often serve as the face and voice of the group in the valley. The position will be classified as an independent contractor and will not be considered an employee of any of the funding/partner entities.

This is a six-month, part-time contract position with a flexible schedule, expected to average approximately 10 hours per week. The specific hours may vary from week to week based on needs and project requirements. There is potential to continue and grow in this position, based on available funding and a performance review by the Madison Passages Steering Committee at the end of the six months. This position will report to the Madison Passages Steering Committee on weekly calls. Point of contact will be with one Committee member.

Compensation/Reimbursement:

\$35.00/hour. Additionally, mileage will be reimbursed at the current IRS rate, \$0.725/mile, for community outreach and road survey travel.

**Medical benefits are not included.*

***Madison Valley Ranchlands Group is the fiscal sponsor for this position.*

Desired Start Date: By March 1, 2026

Roles and Responsibilities include but are not limited to:*Community outreach (Approximately 60% of time)*

- Set up and conduct meetings with key stakeholders, including landowners, in Madison Valley that the Madison Passages team has identified with the purpose of relationship-building and information-gathering.
- Facilitate discussions during landowner meetings by asking key questions and accurately documenting responses.
- Identify additional people and/or entities that should be contacted.
- Participate, present information and represent Madison Passages in public meetings and community outreach efforts.
- Attend weekly Madison Passages meetings to coordinate activities and exchange information.
- Ensure prompt and accurate communication with internal points of contact.

Support Data collection (Approximately 20% of time)

- Learn proper protocol for systemic carcass surveys on US 287 and MT 87.
- Perform monthly systematic surveys with the primary data collector and provide coverage when primary is unavailable or supplemental surveys are desired.
- Ensure data collected is documented in *Survey123* properly.

Fundraising (Approximately 20% of time)

- Collaborate with the Madison Passages team to prepare grant applications and pursue funding opportunities for this position moving forward and for other Madison Passages needs that may arise.
- As the position progresses, this Contractor may take the lead in identifying and writing grant proposals with support from the Madison Passages team.

Experience, Knowledge and Skills:

- Demonstrated ability to build trust-based relationships and rapport with understanding of community norms, values, and cultural context.
- Skilled at navigating community dynamics and sensitivities, including facilitating constructive conversations across diverse perspectives.

- Interest and/or experience in community outreach, transportation safety, wildlife and natural resource management, grant writing, or fundraising is a plus.
- Strong desire and ability to learn about wildlife and transportation issues quickly.
- A self-starter with strong time-management and prioritization skills and the ability to work independently with minimal supervision.
- Ability to work dynamically and effectively in an evolving setting and environment.

Other Requirements:

- 1. Successful applicant will be required to obtain an independent contractor's license through the state of Montana if they do not already have one.**
2. Must have access to a safe and reliable vehicle for regular highway travel between Norris and the Idaho border on MT 87, Raynold's Pass area. Maintenance is the operator's responsibility.
3. Must be able to provide proof of auto insurance at the time of engagement and maintain valid insurance coverage throughout the contract role.
4. Must not have a felony in criminal record.
5. This role requires regular use of a smart phone and computer with internet access for communication, scheduling, coordination, and data collection. We encourage applicants to share any technology-related needs or accommodations during the hiring process.

How to Apply:

Method 1: Please send a resume along with a few sentences explaining your interest and how your skills and experience match the position description to madisonpassages@gmail.com or by mail to: PO Box 330, Ennis, MT 59729.

Method 2: Simply give us a call at **206-214-8717** from **Monday-Friday, 10am-3pm.**

Deadline to apply is February 22, 2026. The position is open until filled.

*All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply.