

# Wolf Park

## *Director of Animal Care*

**Position Title:** Director of Animal Care

**Location:** Wolf Park, Battle Ground, IN

**Reports to:** Executive Director

**Position Type:** Full Time

**Pay Rate:** \$TBD

## Job Overview

The Animal Care Director is a key leadership role responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the Animal Care Center, ensuring the highest standards of welfare, safety, and care for Wolf Park's ambassador animals. This position involves managing a dedicated team of 2-3 direct reports and supervising interns during their rotations in animal care. The Animal Care Director will also play a hands-on role in animal training, fostering positive reinforcement techniques, and ensuring operational excellence.

## Key Responsibilities

- **Leadership & Management**
  - Supervise and mentor 2-3 animal care staff, ensuring their performance aligns with organizational goals and animal welfare best practices;
  - Provide oversight and guidance to interns participating in animal care activities, fostering their growth and understanding of animal welfare principles;
  - Schedule, delegate, and manage daily tasks to ensure efficient operations of the Animal Care Center.
- **Animal Care & Welfare**
  - Oversee and participate in daily care routines, including feeding, cleaning, and enrichment activities, ensuring the physical and mental well-being of all animals;
  - Train and manage ambassador animals using science-based, cooperative care techniques;
  - Monitor animal health, behavior, and habitat conditions, coordinating with veterinary staff as needed.

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- **Policy & Procedure Management**
  - Develop, implement, and update policies and procedures to reflect best practices in animal welfare and husbandry;
  - Ensure compliance with applicable regulatory standards and organizational policies.
- **Training & Development**
  - Collaborate with the Education and Public Engagement teams to support interpretive programming related to animal care and conservation.
- **Facility Oversight & Planning**
  - Ensure the maintenance and cleanliness of animal habitats and the Animal Care Center;
  - Work with leadership to identify and prioritize resource needs, including equipment, supplies, and staffing.

## Required Qualifications

- Strong leadership and organizational skills, with the ability to manage multiple priorities effectively;
- Ability to perform physical tasks, including lifting and handling food, cleaning habitats, and preparing diets;
- Demonstrated expertise in animal training, particularly with wolves or other exotic animals, is highly preferred;
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills to work collaboratively with diverse teams.

## Working Conditions

This role involves working outdoors in all weather conditions. The Animal Care Director will be responsible for physical tasks, including but not limited to food preparation, habitat cleaning, and handling animals. Additionally, cooperative care training may involve direct contact with the animals, requiring flexibility and quick responses to animal behavior.