



Lion Conservation Field Officer Vacancy

Closing date: 30 November 2019

Purpose of the Position: The Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) is one of the largest biodiversity conservation NGOs in southern Africa and is seeking to employ a Lion Conservation Field Officer. The incumbent will join the EWT's Carnivore Conservation Programme, which works to improve the conservation status of carnivores across southern Africa by re-establishing, maintaining, and expanding safe space for carnivores; actively reducing threats to carnivore survival and persistence; ensuring positive changes in the way humans value carnivores; and supporting legislation to protect carnivores. The position will be based in the Lowveld, South Africa. The overall aim of the project is to reduce the poaching of lions and disrupt the trade in their parts.

Key responsibilities:

- Coordinate lion collaring, data collection, and data management.
- Monitor collared prides and the broader lion population in the study area.
- Respond to poisoning events, following training by EWT poison response experts.
- Liaise with anti-poaching patrols to incorporate lion movement data into patrol optimisation.
- Manage stakeholder relations with timely reports and open lines of communication.
- Contribute to data management and analysis, and drafting of scientific and popular publications.
- Maintain high standards of reporting and other administrative duties.

Qualifications and experience required:

- Minimum B.Sc. in Zoology, Conservation Biology, or a related, relevant field, and at least 5 years of relevant experience OR M.Sc. and at least 2 years of relevant experience.
- Experience studying or tracking large carnivores.
- Anti-poaching experience is an advantage.
- The ability to work independently for extended periods in remote areas.
- A proven track record in applied conservation research, fieldwork, and project implementation.
- Excellent organisational skills, and the proven ability to work under pressure.
- The ability to develop and maintain strong, positive relationships with stakeholders and partners.
- Good knowledge about the threats facing carnivores and other wildlife and how these may be mitigated.
- Experience working in potentially dangerous situations, and demonstrated ability to maintain situational awareness and identify and manage risk.
- Valid SA driver's license and suitable off-road driving experience.
- A passion for conservation and our natural heritage.

Competencies required:

- Proficiency in all Microsoft Office programmes; competency in GIS software packages will be a significant advantage.
- High degree of self-motivation and pro-activity.
- Good organisational and data management skills.
- The ability to view situations from both a practical (management) and theoretical (scientific) perspective.
- Knowledge of a second South African language and/or Portuguese would be beneficial.
- Valid SA driver's license and suitable off-road and long-distance driving experience.

Interpersonal skills:

- Disciplined, innovative and energetic.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Fluency in at least English and preferably also Afrikaans or Portuguese.
- The ability to work both independently and as part of team.
- Strong people skills and an approachable manner.

This position is based **in the Lowveld, near Kruger NP**. The EWT is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants are requested to submit a CV, and a detailed motivation as to how and why they would be the best possible candidate for the Lion Conservation Field Officer post. Applicants who have not been contacted within 10 days of the closing date must please assume that their applications were not successful. The EWT reserves the right not to make an appointment. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence. Closing date: **Saturday, 30 November 2019**. Applicants are requested to submit their CV and letter of motivation to Emma Chisare, Human Resources Assistant, emmac@ewt.org.za or Private Bag X11, Modderfontein, 1645 or fax to +27 086 636 5823.