



Carnivores, Livelihoods and Landscapes

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Application Details

Title: Senior Research Scientist

Location: Action for Cheetahs in Kenya - and Meibae Field base - frequent and extended field exercises; Nairobi head office – occasional office-based work

Status: Full-time position ranging from 40 – 45 hours per week (three month probation after which full time position will be considered)

Supervisor: Mary Wykstra, Executive Director

Application deadline: 12 March 2024

Important: All applicants must submit a 1 page cover letter, a CV/Resume and **three** professional references (not relatives) to info@actionforcheetahs.org

Shortlisted candidates: Will be contacted by the 20 March to schedule an interview

About Carnivores, Livelihoods and Landscapes:

CaLL is an independent, non-profit predator focused conservation organization registered in 2009. Our mission is to link Kenya carnivore programmes under an integrated organization through which conservation efforts can be strengthened to assure carnivore survival, particularly in human influenced ecosystems. **Action for Cheetahs in Kenya (ACK)** is a project within **CaLL** which *promotes the conservation of cheetahs in Kenya through research, awareness and community participation*. **ACK** began in 2001 as a community-based research project. We work with partners at national and international levels to implement broad-scale projects to address threats, secure important habitats, monitor cheetah populations, and to create awareness and knowledge about cheetahs and their ecosystems. Field operations include monitoring and community development in the Meibae Community Conservancy (Samburu County) and implementation of a National Cheetah Survey. For more detailed information visit www.actionforcheetahs.org.

Job description

CaLL/ACK is seeking applicants for the position of **Senior Research Scientist**. The successful applicant will oversee field staff projects, outreach programmes and manage biological, geographical and social data bases related to cheetah and habitat monitoring, conflict and resolution, community development, habitat connectivity and range-wide surveys. Skills in data analysis (SPSS, R or similar software), ARCGIS and social data analysis will be required for this position. Good written and verbal skills in English and Kiswahili are also required for communication with staff (Kisumu is also desirable), donors and grant writing. Communication with teams in the field and colleagues in partner projects is essential for this position. The position will require human resource and financial skills alongside of a strong scientific and academic background.

ACK aims to promote the conservation of cheetahs in Kenya through research, awareness and community participation. ACK works closely with local wildlife authorities and land holders to develop policies and programmes which support wildlife conservation and human livelihoods for the long-term development of sustainable human and wildlife zones.



Key responsibilities

- Oversee staff, volunteer and student projects and schedules;
- Assure accurate and consistent data collection is maintained;
- Work with IT Consultant to manage all data collected by ACK staff and affiliated students;
- Submit internal weekly, monthly and quarterly reports per established protocols;
- Adhere to Standard Operating Protocols for research guidelines, methods, budgets and timelines;
- Assist in developing community programmes and education materials;
- Represent ACK in the communities and at designated meetings and functions;
- Produce updates for quarterly and annual newsletters, web-site and door reports;
- Provide technical support and editing for grant proposals;
- Be responsible for project equipment and facility oversight.

**Please note that this is a summarised version of a more detailed job description to be shared with successful candidates.*

Minimal Qualifications

- Masters or higher level degree in Biology, Ecology or Conservation Management ;
- Excellent computer skills in various computer packages (At minimum: Word, Excel and Power Point, Google Drive, statistical software (SPSS, R, and/or miniTab), Cyber Tracker, Earth Ranger and GIS experience);
- Fluent in English and Kiswahili;
- At least two years of field experience in wildlife and habitat monitoring, community conservation and/or environmental education;
- Excellent report writing and presentation skills;
- Good public relations and communication skills;
- Good organizational and analytical skills;
- Ability to work under pressure and to meet deadlines.

Additional Desirable Skills and Experience

- Willingness to learn and accept instructions;
- Fluency in the Samburu language;
- Previous experience in research and staff management (two or more years of experience);
- Be comfortable and have experience, camping in remote areas with basic living conditions;
- Have a proven ability to work well as part of a diverse team;
- Demonstrate a strong conservation ethic and discipline in consistency;
- Be adaptable to changes and prioritize tasks under pressure;
- Have a valid driving license and a minimum of 3 years of driving experience

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