



Drakensberg Project Coordinator Vacancy

The Endangered Wildlife Trust, one of the largest biodiversity conservation NGOs in southern Africa, is seeking to employ a highly motivated, professional individual to coordinate the Drakensberg Key Catchment Conservation project within the African Crane Conservation Programme (a partnership between the International Crane Foundation and Endangered Wildlife Trust). Home to Blue, Grey Crowned and Wattled Cranes, this is one of Africa's key sites for crane conservation.

Leading a team in the Drakensberg region, this position aims to build resilience within the Drakensberg for the benefit of people and biodiversity. This will be achieved through innovative and creative thinking, developing a landscape level priority plan for expanding the protected area network in the region; developing key partnerships to ensure an integrated Population Health and Environment (PHE) approach to conservation, exploring and piloting alternative options to habitat security such as conservation servitudes; improving the ecological integrity of secured sites through wetland rehabilitation, capacity building of landowners and alien plant control; developing and implementing post proclamation support and incentives on secured sites; empowering land users and owners in sustainable management practices; identifying and driving community benefit programmes that promotes economic development and community resilience.

Qualifications and requirements

The minimum requirements for this position will include:

- A minimum of an Masters degree in Natural Resource Management or a related, relevant field;
- At least 5 years' experience in relevant field, with demonstrable experience working with farmers, municipality and relevant government departments being recommended;
- Experience in mentoring and managing people within a team environment is essential;
- A very good understanding of and/or experience with the biodiversity stewardship process in South Africa will be advantageous;
- A good understanding of grassland and catchment ecological processes and associated ecosystem services, with experience in the management of our natural resources is recommended;
- Ability to conceptualize and implement projects at a landscape level, within the South African socio-economic context;
- Very strong interpersonal skills which must include the ability to work with, develop partnerships with and create a network of a range of stakeholders, including landowners, communities and government representatives at both the project and strategic levels;
- Ability to present, discuss and debate challenging environmental concepts with a wider audience;
- Good oral and written communication skills and being conversant in English;
- Proficiency in all Microsoft Office programmes and adept in using Geographic Information Systems;
- Flexibility to work as a team member and also independently;
- Possession of a valid South African or international driver's license, and suitable driving experience;
- Ability to undertake tasks that are physically demanding.

Responsibilities and duties

Conservation work:

- Develop and fulfill annual work plans and project management plans for the project;
- Facilitate protected area expansion within key catchments of the Southern Drakensberg surrounding the World Heritage Site, using the Biodiversity Stewardship approach or other legal mechanisms including Conservation Servitudes;
- Identify innovative post proclamation incentives and support landowners, both private and communal, in the implementation of management plans and/or management guidelines for improved grassland and wetland health;
- Collaborate with other stakeholders and NGO's working in protected area expansion to build sustainability within the KwaZulu-Natal and Eastern Cape Biodiversity Stewardship Programmes;
- Support the mainstreaming of Ecosystem Goods and Services monitoring into improved land management and Biodiversity Stewardship;
- Support the implementation and monitoring of community livelihood projects as identified;
- Monitor and respond to all instances of threats to and mortalities of cranes in the project area;
- Provide input into relevant development applications and conservation planning projects in the area;
- Ensure that at least one peer-reviewed publication is produced annually;
- Mentor and develop skills of partners and stakeholders with which the ICF/EWT-ACCP work.

Interpersonal skills:

- Energetic, innovative thinking and the ability to challenge conventional approaches;
- Excellent communication and networking skills and fluency in English, the ability to converse in an additional relevant language would be advantages;
- The ability to work both independently and as part of team; and
- Self-motivated, disciplined and energetic with strong people skills and an approachable manner.

This position will be based in EWT Howick Office (KZN midlands). The Endangered Wildlife Trust 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 post. **Applicants will be required to complete the Employment Application Form and submit it with their application.** All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence. Closing date **19 November 2018**. To apply please e-mail your CV and a detailed motivation letter of why you are the best candidate for this position to Emma Chisare on emmac@ewt.org.za or mail to Private Bag X11, Modderfontein, 1645 or fax to +27 (0)86 636 5823.