



## Conservation Science Officer Vacancy

### Purpose of the Position:

The Endangered Wildlife Trust is one of the largest biodiversity conservation NGOs in southern Africa. Its work is supported through the Conservation Science Unit (CSU), which provides scientific support to all EWT programmes and projects. The Conservation Science Officer will be responsible for aiding the CSU in achieving its overall goals by providing scientific support for conservation work, including activities such as management of biodiversity databases, statistical data analyses, assistance with the writing of scientific publications and reports, field data collection design, field data collection, GIS, and a wide variety of other interesting and challenging tasks. This position is ideal for a new graduate or early-career conservation scientist who has acquired the latest skills during their studies and is eager to put these skills into real-world practice.

### Main responsibilities:

#### EWT biodiversity data management and conservation science (60% time)

The Science Officer will:

- Undertake technical pieces of work as requested by EWT programmes, including assisting with project design, data collection in the field, and data analysis.
- Support the work of the Senior Scientist and other CSU staff, particularly with the tracking, management, maintenance, sharing, and analysis of the EWT's diverse suite of biodiversity datasets that are primarily held in a PostgreSQL database, and the development of data dashboards.
- Support the Senior Scientist in developing Survey123 data collection forms and the general maintenance and development of the EWT spatial databases and maps in the ArcGIS suite of software.
- Support the CSU in periodically developing training materials on science-related skills for the EWT's field staff.
- As an active member of the EWT's CSU, the Science Officer will contribute to implementing the CSU Strategy, assist in the development, resourcing, and implementation of the CSU projects, and support the integration of science into the programmatic work of the EWT.

#### African Crane Conservation Programme data management and science (40% time)

- Maintain the ACCP database in PostgreSQL, and assist with its further development (specifically developing queries, reports, and a data dashboard).
- Develop and update Survey123 data collection forms when needed.
- Complete and maintain/ update the ACCP monitoring protocols.
- Mentor all ACCP staff in the implementation of the monitoring protocols, data collection and submission.
- Provide maps as required and other data outputs and analysis using R or ArcGIS.
- Analyse the ACCP data for funder reports and guide the annual project review, revision, and adaptation process of the Conservation Standards.
- Work closely with the Conservation Strategy Officer and ensure alignment of impact indicators and monitoring processes with the Conservation Standards.
- Support the ACCP team in publishing or relevant or priority research papers.

## Qualifications, experience, and competencies required:

*The minimum requirements for this position will include:*

- Proficiency in R programming software and GIS
- Minimum of a Masters degree in a biological field (e.g., ecology, conservation, biodiversity informatics)
- An exceptionally organised and competent person with a passion for conservation
- A desire to learn and grow as an individual
- Excellent report-writing skills
- Excellent communication skills in English and, preferably, one other official language
- Good people skills and an approachable manner
- Adaptable and flexible application of skills in the working environment
- Ability to work both as a team member and independently
- A high degree of self-motivation and pro-activity

*Additional requirements that would be advantageous:*

- Experience in conducting field research on species and/or habitats
- Experience in study or data collection design
- Experience with managing large datasets
- Recent, demonstrated working knowledge of analytical techniques relevant to current conservation biology and ecology, including but not limited to mark-recapture analysis, occupancy modelling, population demography tools such as Vortex, ecological niche models, landscape planning and land-use modelling techniques, machine learning and AI, photogrammetry, non-invasive monitoring techniques, acoustic monitoring, etc. The more, the better!

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 who have not been contacted within 10 days of the closing date must please assume that their applications were unsuccessful. The EWT reserves the right not to make an appointment. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence. Closing date **12 May 2021**. To apply, please email your CV and a detailed motivation letter of why you are the best candidate for this position, plus contact details of at least three references to Emma Chisare on [emmac@ewt.org.za](mailto:emmac@ewt.org.za).