



Vacant position at the Ongava Research Centre Field Technician

Job Description:

The Ongava Research Centre (ORC) is hiring **1 field technician** to spend **1 year** collecting valuable scientific data for a research project on the Ongava Game Reserve in collaboration with the University of Georgia, USA. The successful applicant will primarily work with a graduate student (Jessica Patterson) from the University of Georgia (attached to Dr. James Beasley's lab, <http://beasleywildlifelab.srel.uga.edu>) and a research scientist from ORC (Dr. Stephanie Périquet, www.orc.eco) on a multinational research project assessing the effects of artificial lighting on wildlife behaviour and temporal activity at waterholes

This project primarily aims to directly evaluate the impacts of artificial lighting related to tourism activities on wildlife behaviour. The successful candidate will gain extensive field work, data collection and handling experience as relates to wildlife ecology, conservation, and management in northern Namibia. Housing at the Ongava Research Centre (on-site) will be provided. Salary will be commensurate with the successful applicant's qualifications and experience.

Position Duties:

The position is based at ORC, on the Ongava Game Reserve and will include both field and office components. Field work includes deployment and monitoring of lighting stations and video cameras, transferring videos from recording units to portable hard drives, collecting carnivore fecal samples and other various activities (camera trap deployment, biological sample collection and processing, carnivore collaring, etc.) depending on ORC research programmes (visit the ORC website for more information). In addition to field work, this position will require long hours spent at a computer processing and coding of videos to identify behaviours of several African mammal species.

The successful applicant will be required to work in the field individually and in group settings. The study site is located on the Ongava Game Reserve, Northern Namibia.



Required Qualifications:

1. At least a BSc or Honours degree in a relevant field (e.g. wildlife ecology, behaviour, conservation or management)
2. Experience and/or willingness to conduct field work in semi-arid remote area
3. Ability to learn quickly and efficiently collect accurate data
4. Capability to use artificial lights and cameras, and troubleshoot problems with those in the field
5. Experience/training with various software programs, Windows applications (Microsoft Excel, Word, etc.) and using external hard drives
6. Ability and desire to work/collaborate well with team members and supervisors
7. Demonstrate commitment to promoting and enhancing wildlife conservation
8. Possess a current, valid driver's license
9. Demonstrate experience/training with 4WD vehicles, GPS units, and mobile apps (e.g., Avenza Maps, onX, Epicollect5)

Preferred Qualifications:

1. Courses/experience with wildlife data collection and sampling methods
2. Ability to identify African mammal species
3. Potential candidates should be well organized, self-motivated, and able to perform duties independent of direct supervision
4. Candidates intending to pursue their studies into MSc or PhD will be preferred

Closing date for application: 1st March 2023
Starting date: 15th May 2023

Please submit a cover letter, resume, copies of driving license and qualifications, and two professional references (name, email, and phone number) as a single PDF file to Stephanie Périquet (sp@orc.eco). Applications will be reviewed starting 1st March and will be accepted until a suitable candidate has been found.

Please name the PDF file with your first and last name and use the following as a subject line for your email: "Field technician application for artificial lighting & wildlife behaviour". Applications without this subject line may be missed and might not be considered.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Preference will be given to Namibian Citizens/Permanent Residents or persons in possession of a valid work permit.