



Job title: Endangered wildlife monitor for Wildlife ACT (www.wildlifeact.com)

Location: iMfolozi section, Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Job description: The Student will need to monitor endangered (African wild dog, black rhinoceros and cheetah) and priority species (African elephant, lion and spotted hyena) in iMfolozi. The project will be run with small groups of volunteers (5 maximum), so a love of wildlife and people is necessary. The Student will work in alternation on a 20 days on and 20 days off work cycle with another PhD student, meaning 20 days on leave and/or for his/her own research.

As a Wildlife ACT monitor the student will need to

- host and work with up to 5 international volunteers on each reserve, these volunteers function as research assistants and provide funding for the monitoring operations. We are therefore looking for a fun and gregarious person.
- be confident in the bush and be self-sufficient, as volunteers with no previous bush experience will rely on them.
- have the ability to work hours outside of 'normal' work hours – e.g. wilddog need to be found before the sun is up and be sighted again as darkness falls.
- contribute towards the development and enhancement of monitoring activities on not only their reserves, but of all reserves where Wildlife ACT is present.
- oversee and co-ordinate all Wildlife ACT volunteer activities on the reserve.
- work under the direction of the relevant reserve management in terms of monitoring requirements. This is a dynamic work environment with potential changes in monitoring requirements based on short-term management decisions and changes in the ecological environment. Following this there will be long-term monitoring requirements which will need completion.
- complete a monthly and annual report which will allow reserve management to note significant animal movements or changes in species population dynamics/demographics.

Salary: As a Wildlife ACT employee the student will be paid for the 20 days of work, which includes accommodation and food, the other 20 days will be at the students own expense.

Research: The data collection for own research is possible during monitoring days (with volunteers) as far as it does not negatively affect the monitoring work and should complement the work as far as possible.

Requirements:

- South African citizen
- Over the age of 21
- A drivers license and at least three years driving experience
- Registered as a PhD (preferably) or MSc student
- Degree or diploma in nature conservation
- First Aid or FGASA qualified
- Previous work experience in a dangerous game area, whether as a researcher, field/section ranger or guide.

Available start date: September 2013

Any interested students to please contact Christie Fynn: christie@wildlifeact.com