



WILD CHIMPANZEE FOUNDATION

Full-time Field Position

Biomonitoring, Research and Law Enforcement Program Officer

Structure of employment: Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF)

Date of publication: 20th February 2017

Background:

The Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF) is an international NGO established in several countries such as Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Liberia. WCF has been in operation since 2000 for the conservation of chimpanzees and other biodiversity in West Africa. The WCF has worked on projects in Liberia since 2008 and opened a country representation in 2013. WCF conducts conservation programs that include biomonitoring, law enforcement, environmental education, research, land-use planning, alternative livelihood schemes, ecotourism and capacity building, in and around chimpanzee habitats. Emphasis of current projects is on supporting the Forestry Development Authority of Liberia to create protected areas that harbor viable wild chimpanzee populations through evidence-based approaches and community engagement; developing transboundary collaboration along the border with Côte d'Ivoire; and building capacity for law enforcement and monitoring.

Job Description:

We are seeking a Biomonitoring, Research and Law Enforcement Program Officer, to support the WCF activities in southeastern Liberia; working with the Country Director, Field Coordinator and WCF team, based in Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County, Liberia. The Biomonitoring, Research and Law Enforcement Program Officer will be required to assist biomonitoring, research, protected area creation, community eco-guard and law enforcement strategies, as well as capacity building of local partners. He/She will also be required to ensure all administration, accounting and procedures are done in accordance with the WCF regulations. Current projects include: Creation of the Grebo-Krahn National Park, in the heart of the Taï-Grebo-Sapo Forest Complex, the largest west African remaining forest block; Creation of potentially Liberia's largest protected area in within the Krahn-Bassa National Forest; Creation of forest corridors in the Taï-Grebo-Sapo Forest Complex; Developing national strategies for biomonitoring and law enforcement, with emphasis on SMART and digital data collection.

Terms of Reference:

- Supervise and manage your assigned teams at the Zwedru office in coordination with the Field Coordinator.

- Program missions for assigned program activities including: biomonitoring, eco-guards, law enforcement, bushmeat market survey, in collaboration with the Field Coordinator and Country Director.
- Manage and monitor the allocated program budgets and ensure funds are spent correctly and accounted for following WCF procedures alongside the Field Coordinator, Admin and Finance Officer and Assistant.
- Create and manage the maintenance of a shapefile, data collection and report database for WCF Liberia.
- Continue and expand the training program to train up FDA and WCF local program officers and supervisors (biomonitoring and eco-guards). This would entail training on simple computer use, to data entry, to simple Excel analysis, up to creation of maps and spatial analysis on specific software.
- Develop skills and capacity of local team to complete financial reports, activity reports and mission/budget planning.
- Check both eco-guard and biomonitoring data on a monthly basis (if missions have occurred) to ensure it is being collected and done correctly. Carry out simple analysis on a monthly basis to follow the program and send monthly reports to the country office in Liberia.
- Represent WCF at meetings and workshops as and when requested by the Liberia Country Director.
- Report on monthly basis and if needed at any other time to the WCF office in Monrovia.
- Keep regular contact on all activities and potential new possibilities with WCF-Liberia Country Director.
- Support proposal writing and report writing for the WCF West-African Office.
- Maintain SMART reporting system for the eco-guard program in Proposed Grebo-Krahn National Park (PGKNP) leading towards paper free data collection.
- Train FDA and WCF staff members to increase their capacity to use SMART software (queries and reporting).
- Continue development of harmonized law enforcement strategy in PGKNP using eco-guard data collection for targeted law enforcement missions in PGKNP (alongside Country Director, FDA HQ, Chief Park Warden and Field Coordinator).
- Collate all data relating to Krahn-Bassa Conservation Area (KBCA) (scoping mission, socio-economic survey and biomonitoring) and develop a strategy to create new protected area within KBCA alongside the Country Director.
- Perform biannual progress meetings with all staff at the Zwedru office to monitor progress and set new goals for development (alongside Field Coordinator).
- Prepare reports on program activities.

Qualifications / Experience:

This work presents an ideal opportunity for a person who holds a master's degree in conservation, Remote-Sensing or GIS. Knowledge of GIS and remote sensing is a must. Knowledge of R is preferential. Experience working with communities and in Africa is desirable but not mandatory. The candidate will be retained should he/she be able to work independently in simple and rustic conditions in Liberia. They must be very organized, disciplined and able to work under pressure. Knowledge of GIS and remote sensing is a must.

Salary / Funding: Salary is dependent on experience. One return flight per year is covered. Accommodation is provided at the field office in Zwedru.

Language Requirements: English

Start Date: April 2017 – for a minimum of 12 months

Deadline: ASAP – until the position is filled

Send CV, cover letter and two references contacts (email + phone) as soon as possible dervla.dowd@gmail.com in cc to emma.normand@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.wildchimps.org>