



Water Conservation Project Coordinator Vacancy

Purpose of the Position: The Endangered Wildlife Trust, one of the largest biodiversity conservation NGOs in southern Africa, is seeking to employ a highly motivated, professional individual as a Water Conservation Coordinator, to protect hydrological functioning, unique biodiversity, landscapes and sustainable livelihoods in the Soutpansberg Mountains. The development of a detailed conservation plan will allow the strategic implementation of urgent conservation interventions including Invasive Alien Plant clearing of priority upper catchments as well as the improvement of habitat management practices in formally secured priority protected areas for ecosystem service provision and climate change resilience. To establish sustainable green micro-enterprise initiatives for the long-term achievement and maintenance of alien clearing plans for the economic benefit of local people. To capacitate provincial conservation officials to implement ongoing conservation action and finally to catalyse similar work more widely across the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR).

Qualifications, experience and competencies required:

The minimum requirements for this position will include:

- A minimum of a Master's degree in Natural Resource Management, Conservation Biology or relevant field;
- Three years' proven experience in the sector, which includes alien invasive plant clearing and strategic conservation planning.
- At least 3 years' experience in mentoring and managing staff at various levels is essential;
- Proven experience in conceptualizing and implementing of large projects at a landscape level, with strong facilitation and coordination skills and ability demonstrated;
- Demonstrated ability to manage large budgets and maintain field equipment;
- An understanding of and experience with the Biodiversity Stewardship Programme in South Africa is highly advantageous;
- Experience in developing and implementing strategies for conservation based micro-enterprise and socio economic development is beneficial;
- Critical thinking and the ability to challenge conventional thinking and think innovatively;
- Strong interpersonal skills which must include proven ability to 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;
- Possession of a valid South African or international driver's license, and suitable driving experience;
- Proficiency in all Microsoft Office programmes and GIS;
- Being conversant in English in compulsory, and one other relevant South African language would be advantageous;
- Good oral and written communication skills.

Additional requirements that would be advantageous:

- Experience with strategic partnerships with the private and public sector, and with large scale funding agencies;
- A good understanding of water and catchment management, and the role agriculture plays in conservation of natural resources and vice versa;
- Good research and data collection skills;
- Adept in using Geographic Information Systems would be advantageous;

- Ability to undertake tasks that are physically demanding;
- Willingness and ability to work in remote areas is critical.

Interpersonal skills:

- Disciplined, innovative and energetic;
- The ability to work both independently and as part of a team; and
- Self-motivated, disciplined and energetic with strong people skills and an approachable manner.

This position will be based in the western Soutpansberg Area, includes accommodation (if the incumbent is willing to live on Medike NR). 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 not successful. The EWT reserves the right not to make an appointment. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence. Closing date 27 February 2018. To apply please e-mail your CV and a detailed motivation letter of why you are the best candidate for this position plus at least three references contact details to Emma Chisare on emmac@dewt.org.za or mail to Private Bag X11, Modderfontein, 1645 or fax to +27 (0)86 636 5823.