



JOB ADVERT

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND MONITORING OFFICER

Ishaqbini Hirola Community Conservancy (IHCC) is a community-led conservation initiative situated on the eastern banks of the Tana River in Garissa County, specifically within Ijara Sub County, Masalani ward. It encompasses the areas of Hara, Korisa, Kotile, Bulawarade, and Abalatiro locations. The conservancy was established in 2007 and focuses on the conservation and protection of the critically endangered hirola antelope, which is endemic to this region. The hirola is recognized internationally as the most severely threatened antelope species in the world and is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List. In 2012, the conservancy established a 27 km² predator-proof sanctuary specifically for the hirola, creating a secure environment free from predation, poaching, and competition with livestock. This sanctuary serves as a crucial habitat for the hirola to breed and thrive, contributing to the species' recovery efforts. IHCC's primary goal is to drive conservation efforts while also enhancing community livelihoods and empowering the local population to manage their natural resources. The vision of IHCC is to become a preferred provider of community-led solutions in wildlife conservation, rangeland management, and sustainable livelihood improvement.

The conservancy is one of the member conservancies supported by the umbrella organization of **Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)**, one of the most successful and impactful local conservation organization based at UNESCO World Heritage Site Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. More information can be found at www.nrt-kenya.org. NRT is a membership organization owned and led by 45 community conservancies in Northern and Coastal Kenya. NRT was established as a shared resource to help build and develop community conservancies, to enhance people's lives, build peace, and conserve the natural environment.

The conservancy is currently seeking to recruit a Wildlife Research and Monitoring Officer to assist with its project "Conservation for Better Well-being" (Uhifadhi na Maisha Bora), which is funded by USAID. Ishaqbini is the first community conservancy in Kenya to successfully secure direct funding from USAID.

Job Title:	Wildlife Research and Monitoring Officer
Location:	Based at Ishaqbini CCY HQ
Reports to:	Conservancy Manager

Job Purpose:

The Wildlife Research and monitoring Officer will be responsible for conducting scientific research and studies related to wildlife conservation and management. This role involves fieldwork, data collection, analysis, and reporting findings to contribute to the understanding and conservation of wildlife populations and habitats.

Key roles/Responsibilities:

Database development

- Develop and improve (customize) current databases to suit the needs of the users
- Maintain all database in use by Ishaqbini conservancy – specifically Wildlife CoMMS, Veg CoMMS, SMART, Earth Ranger for Ecological Monitoring, MIKE, QGIS etc.
- Explore and pilot new tech that might enhance monitoring and timely reporting

Data management

- Custodian of all Data from the various database – hence ensure the data is clean, of quality and readily available for use

- Ensure timely reporting, feedback, and training as required

Training

- Train all database users in effective use of the databases to advice conservancy management
- Support conservancy management and leadership to access and use monitoring information for decision making

Monitoring

- Support rangers in implementing Wildlife-CoMMS in the assigned conservancies under the devolved regional teams
- Provide support to species conservation programs and other research and monitoring projects in the conservancy
- Collect and manage biodiversity, rangeland and socio-economic data as required

Qualifications, Knowledge, and Experience required:

- Bachelor's degree in wildlife management, Rangelands Management, Environmental Management conservation or related field.
- Minimum of 5 years' experience in similar or relevant role.
- Proven experience in conducting field research on wildlife species, preferably in diverse habitats and environments.
- Strong skills in data collection, analysis and interpretation using statistical software and GIS tools.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with ability to effectively present scientific information to diverse audiences.
- Experience in wildlife monitoring techniques such as GPS tracking, genetic analysis and population modelling.
- Knowledge of environmental laws and regulations related to wildlife conservation.

Technical & Behavioral competences:

- Must be skilled in inter-personal communications, have an ability to work with multiple stakeholders including community and government.
- Demonstrated potential for leadership and the ability to mentor and guide junior staff.
- Skilled in motivating and influencing others.
- Demonstrated ability to think creatively and solve problems effectively.
- Computer literacy in Microsoft office suits such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Emails.
- Awareness and respect for diverse cultures and backgrounds.
- Ability to work inclusively and promote a diverse work environment.

How to apply:

Interested and qualified candidates are required to submit their application including a cover letter, detailed Curriculum Vitae highlighting relevant experience, academic and professional certificates, testimonials, a daytime telephone contact, email address, and names of three professional referees to reach us by close of business **Wednesday, 11th September 2024** via ishaqbini@nrt-kenya.org, addressed to:

MANAGER
ISHAQBINI HIROLA COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY
P.O BOX 46 70105 MASALANI

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.