CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND – NAMIBIA

Job Title: **Scat detection dog program manager**

Reports to: Director of the CCF and Assistant Director for Animal Health and Research.

Job Overview: The programme uses dogs trained in detecting cheetah scat for rapid, non-invasive cheetah surveys. Scat (both cheetah and other carnivore) found and collected by the programme is analysed in CCF's genetics laboratory and used in population level genetics studies, hormone studies, and ecological studies. The applicant will be fully responsible of managing the scat detection dog program. This includes the daily care and training of the dogs, planning of surveys, performing searches, data management and data analysis.

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Planning and performance of high quality field searches with scat detection dogs
- Training of scat detection dogs
- The daily care and maintenance of scat detection dogs
- Planning and management of scat detection dog work/training/care schedule
- Work as a contractor for other institutes involving extended trips to other south African countries
- Supervise hair reading to determine prey species
- Perform genetic analysis on the scat in close collaboration with CCF genetics' lab
- Curating data collected by programme
- Report work to management
- Develop programme research and search design
- Analyse data collected by the program
- Publish the work in peer reviewed journals
- Communicate with Farmers, other researchers/institutes, governmental institutions and organisations
- Demonstrate the dog's work and the program to the public and interact with guests
- Supervise students

Qualifications:

- Minimum M.Sc. in biology, ecology, conservation or similar field
- Strong interest in research, conservation ecology and animal training
- At least five years of dog handling/training experience including: hunting, scent tracking, protection, search and rescue
- Sound knowledge about the use of dogs in conservation settings and research, especially scat detection
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office applications
- Experience in database programmes (i.e. FileMaker) and big data management
- Sound knowledge in statistical analysis
- Basic knowledge in statistical programs (R, Statistica, SPSS)
- Sound knowledge in Geographic Information Systems (QGIS, ArcGIS)
- Excellent report writing skills including technical reports, scientific papers, and project proposals
- Experience in project/research design and proposal writing
- Excellent spoken and written English and German
- Preferably additional language skills
- Experience and willingness to work completely independent
- Ability to work and live in harsh environments without access to basic facilities
- Valid driver's license and ability to drive manual transmission vehicles also off-road and 4x4

If you meet the qualifications and wish to apply, forward a .pdf of your CV and a letter explaining your interest to jobs@ccfnamibia.org . This position requires extreme computer literacy and fluency in English. Email application only: phone /fax/mail applications will be ignored.