

CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND – NAMIBIA

Job Title: Conservation Release Technician

posted: 17 June 2022

closing: 15 July 2022

Reports to: Director; Assistant Director for Ecological Research

Job Overview: The applicant will work directly with the Conservation Release Manager in activities relating to Cheetah Conservation Fund's (CCF) rehabilitation and release programme. The applicant will use expert knowledge, training, and experience to assist husbandry staff to ensure appropriate rearing of releasable animals, and will assist all release efforts, including but not limited to the investigation of potential release site, and liaison with Namibia's Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism (MEFT). Additionally, the applicant will be responsible for post-release monitoring/management.

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Assist husbandry staff to ensure proper care and preparation of releasable animals
- Participate in releases including all work regarding preparations for a release, releases, and post-release monitoring of released animals and uses expert knowledge/experience to take necessary post-release monitoring action (supplementation, interference, veterinary assistance, etc.), and ensures best practice in release data collection/storage/management
- Liaise with potential release sites and develop working relationships with their management
- Manage and coordinate CCF's inventory (both in storage and deployed) of GPS/Radio-Telemetry collars and equipment, and liaises with manufacturers regarding all troubleshooting concerns, data storage/access, and new collar orders/purchases.
- Responsible for the preparation and publication of release-related scientific articles

Qualifications:

- A master's degree with top marks in biology, ecology, conservation, or similar field - with additional formal captive wildlife care training/education/degree
- At least 5 years of experience working with captive cheetahs in a reputable captive care institution
- At least 4 years of experience working with the release of cheetahs into both open and closed wild environments
- Thorough understanding of animal health, physiology, biology, and behaviour
- Thorough understanding and experience with GPS/VHF radio collars and proven experience working with multiple manufacturers of GPS/VHF radio collars
- Demonstrable expert level ability and at least 5 years of experience with VHF Radio Telemetry tracking
- High level of experience with 4x4 driving, orienteering, and solo field operations in areas with high wildlife density, particularly with high dangerous wildlife density
- Notable vehicle maintenance/mechanics experience, thorough understanding of preventative maintenance
- Physical fitness with the ability to lift 50kg unassisted.

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.