

Urban Hyaena Research Project
Radio Tracking Research Assistant Required
Wild Dog Conservation Malawi - Based in Lilongwe or
Liwonde National Park



Conservation Research Africa (CRAs) is a charity in England and Wales that conducts and supports applied research to inform conservation and wildlife management in Africa. Based in Malawi, CRAs flagship project is **Wild Dog Conservation Malawi** which conducts **applied research, conservation and education** to conservation wild dogs and other carnivores in Malawi. Find out more about our work here: www.wilddogconservationmalawi.org.

We are conducting behavioural ecology field research to assess the urban spotted hyaena population in the capital city of Lilongwe, to inform human-wildlife conflict management (. We are currently recruiting for a Field Research Assistant. The position is based in the city of Lilongwe in partnership with the Lilongwe Wildlife Centre..

Duties:

- Radio tracking hyaena in the wilderness area of the city
- Conducting camera trap surveys
- Conducting behavioural observations and habituation of hyaena
- Collecting faecal samples for diet analysis
- Creating and maintaining a photographic database of hyaena using MS Access
- Creating and updating ArcGIS habitat and sightings maps
- Developing awareness and education materials about hyaena and the project
- Writing local and international press releases and international publications
- Collating public field records of sightings

Requirements

Essential:

- Minimum of BSc, in ecology, conservation or similar field
- At least 6 months experience of field research
- Excellent team-work skills, written and oral communication skills
- Clean driving license
- Passion for conservation and wildlife
- Computer literacy: MS Office, including Access; Photoshop, ArcGIS
- Positive mental attitude, resilient, ability to muck in and get on with it
- Hard work ethic, flexible and conscientious approach
- Be willing to track and observe hyaenas at night in the city

Desirable

- Experience of field research with carnivores preferably in Africa
- A good understanding of current concepts in African conservation as well as issues in environmental science, policy and management
- Experience of ArcGIS mapping, digitising and home range analysis

Contract conditions

Timing: This is a 3 month position commencing from December 2014 with a possibility of extension to 6 months.

Location: You will be based in Lilongwe in accommodation at our partner organisation the Lilongwe Wildlife Centre. For specific information about the living arrangements visit <http://www.lilongwewildlife.org/index/get-involved/volunteer/faqs/>. You may also be required to spend time tracking hyaena in Liwonde National Park, from our research camp based in Mvuu Lodge.

Your accommodation will consist of a tent in the wildlife with a bed and access to flushing toilets and hot showers. You may be sharing your tent with other staff (dependent upon volunteer numbers at this time). There is power, a cell network and wifi at the wildlife centre.

Costs: You will be asked to provide a contribution for your position of £100 per week to cover food, accommodation and all work related travel including airport transfers. You will be required to cover your own flights, visas, insurance, vaccinations and equipment costs.

Application process

To apply please send a completed application form and covering letter (outlining why you think you would be suitable for the post) and a CV if you wish to Dr Emma Stone on emma.stone@bristol.ac.uk.