

Position Available

Conservation Coordinator – High Altitude Programme

The Snow Leopard Trust (SLT; www.snowleopard.org) is an international not-for-profit organization that seeks to conserve the snow leopard and its habitat based on effective conservation action backed with sound science and partnerships with local communities and Government agencies. In India, SLT carries out its activities jointly with the Nature Conservation Foundation, Mysore (NCF; www.ncf-india.org) under its High Altitude Program. NCF is dedicated to promoting science-based, socially responsible wildlife conservation in India.

This is a key position to promote community-based conservation and conservation education amongst local communities in the Indian Himalaya. The position is expected to work closely with the Director of Conservation and coordinate the functioning, monitoring and other aspects of the ongoing conservation work with local communities, running conservation education programmes, and developing new initiatives. The candidate will also form the link between the Director of Conservation, the Field Coordinators and other field staff. The position requires spending considerable time at field locations in challenging environmental conditions in Spiti Valley, Ladakh and other high altitude locations, as well as extensive travelling. The candidate will be responsible for proper functioning and ecological monitoring of the ongoing conservation and education activities, planning for future activities and help in developing project proposals and writing reports and articles. The position will provide constant feedback and communication to the Director of Conservation based on interactions with local field staff and community members.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific responsibilities for this position include –

- Stay in regular contact with Director of Conservation through emails and telephone for updating the progress of assigned and routine work.
- Assist and ensure timely and proper implementation of the Annual Plan as per the guidelines.
- Ensure timely, periodic ecological monitoring of vegetation and wildlife in Spiti and Ladakh.
- Make presentations about the work at annual meetings of NCF and in seminars/conferences/workshops.
- Conduct meetings/network with local community members and government officials to facilitate and strengthen conservation initiatives, maintain/improve cordial relationships
- Explore new opportunities to expand the scope and impact of our work.
- Contribute to capacity building of field staff through training workshops and assigning clear duties/work with periodic assessment of their skills.
- Keep records of financial and administrative aspects of field offices and field work in files (hard copies) and on the computer.
- Assist and help senior staff members and visitors in field.
- Formulate project proposals in close coordination with the Director of Conservation and help raise necessary funds for the ongoing and future conservation work.

- Assist in implementation and monitoring of conservation education work through networking with schools (principals & teachers) and rural youth, conducting education camps, developing educational material, and taking regular feedback from Manager Education, Spiti and Field Co ordinator, Ladakh.

QUALIFICATIONS

The position requires excellent social and communication skills, and the ability to interact with a diversity of people including local communities and other staff in a culturally sensitive manner. Experience in education and teaching is useful. Prior experience in handling these aspects; independent decision-making; networking; and data collection, analysis and publication of results would be useful.

- A relevant post-graduate degree and experience in independent handling of projects and people is desirable.
- Preparedness to work in challenging field situations with minimal assistance and infrastructure.
- Good interpersonal skills, flexibility and intuitive abilities.
- Clear understanding of and strict adherence to work ethic, goals of our work/organisation and deadlines.
- Skills in report writing, preparation of project proposals and coordinating field work in distant and often remote locations with field staff.
- Positive attitude/openness towards the culture, religious identities and traditional wisdom of local communities.

LOCATION and REMUNERATION

This position, though subject to change, can currently be based in Bangalore, Mysore or Ahmedabad depending on candidate's preference, but involves considerable periods of field-work in the Himalayas (c. 6-8 months annually). Remuneration will be commensurate with the applicant's qualifications and experience and subject to periodic/annual assessment and increments. The candidate will be on probation and training for a year after selection.

APPLICATION

Please apply with your CV and a brief write-up (maximum 1 page) on why you believe this job is appropriate for you. Please email these to pranav@ncf-india.org. Preferred date for application reaching us is before 30th November. However, the position will be available till a suitable candidate is identified.