



## Position Description - Research Scientist

Employer: Science For Wildlife

Reports to: Executive Director

Works With: Field Ecologist, Community Engagement Officer, Volunteers, Business Strategist

Hours: Full-time (may be required to work outside of the normal hours of work).

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### Science For Wildlife

**Our Mission: To create and share scientific knowledge to empower wildlife conservation**

**Our Promise: To contribute to effective wildlife conservation by developing innovative solutions based on science, and through genuine collaboration and community involvement**

### Overall Purpose of Role

Science for Wildlife is a young and innovative not-for-profit organisation, and we are looking for a Research Scientist with experience in terrestrial ecology to join our growing team. Reporting to the Executive Director, the Research Scientist will help to deliver on our wildlife conservation research projects. We undertake applied scientific research across a range of disciplines to ensure maximum conservation outcomes, while also engaging the community to build stewardship and local capacity for conservation. The role is multifaceted and includes desktop research, remote area fieldwork, and training and supervising volunteers. A major component will be delivering on post-bushfire fauna and flora assessments in the Greater Blue Mountains region, particularly koalas.

## 1. Performance Outcomes to be Achieved

### Key Responsibilities

- Assist with project design for different survey methods of flora and fauna
- Manage remote area field logistics, coordinate access permissions and liaise with stakeholders across land tenures.
- Lead field teams for extensive post-bushfire survey work and data collection across the Greater Blue Mountains region and adjoining land tenures, with oversight of field data collection
- Oversee fieldwork safety for staff and volunteers
- Undertake a range of statistical analysis, including GIS spatial analysis
- Undertake data collation, literature reviews and scientific writing for reports, publications and annual returns
- Provide research information to our Community Engagement Officer for dissemination
- Field equipment inventory and maintenance
- Occasional weekend work, to facilitate volunteer participation. After hours work where required eg nocturnal surveys.

## 2. Communications and Administration

### Key responsibilities

- Communicate with stakeholders and volunteers across projects to ensure deliverables are met.
- Work with and advise students involved in our research projects
- Deliver all messaging as per brand guidelines and in line with our point of difference to S4W competitors; represent S4W as a hands-on wildlife conservation organisation that delivers effective conservation based on science, while engaging communities to build stewardship and ensure sustainability of conservation efforts

## 3. Essential Skills and Qualifications

Qualifications: BSc and either MSc or PhD in ecology, environmental science or related discipline. Minimum 8yrs experience in the industry.

- I. Knowledge and expertise in all aspects of research from project design, across data collection and statistical analysis, to reporting and scientific writing
- II. Experience in remote area field logistics and associated WHS and site access planning.
- III. Well-developed verbal, written communication and presentation skills, and demonstrated ability to cooperate and work well with others in the pursuit of team goals
- IV. Competent with use of ArcGIS, biostatistics and spatial analysis software programs,
- V. Demonstrated ability in scientific writing for peer reviewed journals
- VI. Experience in a range of field survey skills including vegetation identification, camera traps surveys, scat surveys and radio telemetry.
- VII. Experience in group coordination, volunteer supervision in the field, and oversight of data collection.

- VIII. Demonstrated experience in off-track hiking and navigation
- IX. Flexibility in hours of work to ensure deliverables including fieldwork needs are met.
- X. Ability to work both independently and collaboratively within a team, and with high level of autonomy
- XI. Ability to plan, organise tasks and resources (for self and of those they supervise), use initiative and problem solve to achieve high quality outcomes in a timely and effective manner.

#### 4. Other Requirements

- Senior first aid certificate, wilderness first aid certificate preferred
- 4WD certification
- Good level of fitness, to ensure safety in remote area work which includes steep and rugged terrain.
- Access to own vehicle and current drivers license as travel for work is required.

#### 5. Desirable Skills

- Koala capture and handling experience.
- Experience with genetics, and/or understanding of different types of genetic markers and ability to interpret lab results and reports.
- Chain saw operation certification
- Experience in representing an organization in media articles and interviews.

#### 6. Location

Position based in Greater Blue Mountains region. Work will involve a combination of online work, fieldwork and local meetings. Position must be based locally due to logistics of remote area fieldwork at sites on the eastern and western edges of the Blue Mountains (Hawkesbury, Lower Blue Mountains, Jenolan and Newnes).

#### 7. Remuneration

Full time, annual salary range of \$70,000 to \$90,000 plus 9.5% super. 12 month contract (with possibility to extend).

#### To apply

Please send a cover letter outlining your relevant qualifications, skills and experience for this role, plus a CV. Email your application to [info@scienceforwildlife.org](mailto:info@scienceforwildlife.org) by Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Please include your name and the job title in the document name.

This position is available for Australian citizens and residents.

For more information please contact Mary Rayner, Business Strategist, Science for Wildlife.

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