



## APNR Ground-Hornbill Project

### Field Assistant Position

#### About APNR Ground-Hornbill Project

The project is based in the Associated Private Nature Reserves (APNR) in the Greater Kruger, South Africa, and works towards slowing and reversing the decline of the Southern Ground-Hornbill, while carrying out fundamental research. For the past 24 years, researchers from the [FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology](#) have been researching Southern Ground-Hornbills. Our efforts are focussed on installing and monitoring artificial nests and studying the birds' reproduction, behaviours, and the impacts of climate change.

#### About the position

We are looking for an enthusiastic field assistant to help monitor ground-hornbill nests between October 2024 and March 2025. This position will suit someone who is looking for experience in conservation or research. There is also potential for the ideal candidate to conduct their own MSc or PhD research on Southern Ground-Hornbills at the study site, leading to a more permanent role within the project. Ideal for someone local to the Hoedspruit area, however, accommodation can be arranged. Priority will be given to South African candidates.

#### Roles and Responsibilities:

- Assist with nest monitoring, handling and measuring ground-hornbill chicks.
- Conduct behavioural observations of birds.
- Collect data and perform data entry
- Install camera traps and extract camera data.
- Engage with landowners and stakeholders.
- Carry out administrative tasks, including report writing and financial management.

#### Qualifications, Experience and Skills required:

- BSc degree in Biology, Environmental Science, or a related field.
- Highly organised.
- Driver's license with 4x4 driving experience.
- Must not be afraid of heights and able to work up a ladder.
- Fit and able to manoeuvre a 6m ladder.
- Available for a minimum of 3 months.
- Computer and data entry skills (Microsoft Excel and Access).
- Excellent communication, approachable personality, and ability to work well with people.
- Willing to work weekends and flexibility to meet project needs.
- Passion for the environment, conservation, and birds.



### Desired Skills and Requirements:

- Experience working in areas inhabited by dangerous wildlife (the field site is home to lions, leopards, buffalo, elephants, etc.). Training can be provided for candidates without prior experience.
- Basic D.I.Y skills.
- Experience with using and extracting data from camera traps.
- Possession of a personal vehicle for independent transport (not required for fieldwork).

Interested candidates should send a CV and cover letter outlining relevant experience, along with references to Carrie Hickman ([carriehickman@gmail.com](mailto:carriehickman@gmail.com)). Remuneration will be based on experience. Closing date for applications is **20<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. Applicants who have not been contacted within 10 working days of the closing date must please assume that their application was not successful.