

**WWF-Cambodia**

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Annex 1**Job Description**

Position title:	Research Assistant (Eastern Plains Landscape) WWF- Cambodia
Reports to:	Research Officer (EPL) , WWF -Cambodia
Supervises:	N/A
Start date:	ASAP
Location:	Mondulkiri Province, Cambodia

Background

WWF-Greater Mekong – on the ground in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam – is working to conserve the region’s biodiversity and build a secure and sustainable future for people and wildlife. WWF has a long history of engagement in the Greater Mekong.

WWF’s mission in Cambodia is to ensure that there will be strong participation and support from all people to conserve the country’s rich biological diversity. The WWF-Cambodia Conservation Programme that started more than 10 years ago is implemented in 2 landscapes – Eastern Plains Landscape (EPL) and Mekong Flooded Forest (MFF) Landscape and built over the following 4 pillars of interventions: (1) Securing Landscape Integrity sustaining conservation and livelihood development, (2) Freshwater and Sustainable Hydropower, (3) Protected Area Management and Conservation Research and (4) Sustainable Financing – Green Economy.

The Cambodia EPL is the top priority landscape within the Lower Mekong Dry Forests Ecoregion identified by national and international scientific assessments. It is one of the largest intact landscapes in Cambodia and contains several protected areas. The EPL is a global conservation priority for several significant threatened species; such as Asian elephant, Leopard, Gibbons, Guar, Banteng, Siamese crocodile and several critically endangered bird species. It is also the largest extent of naturally functioning deciduous forest habitat mosaic in SE Asia.

The EPL is facing significant development pressures from forestland conversion, mining, infrastructure development and through wildlife trade. WWF’s current focus in the EPL is to support protected area management and biodiversity conservation, community engagement in natural resource management and land use planning and initiation of alternative livelihoods including ecotourism projects.

I. Major Function

The position holder is to assist all research activities undertaken by research team under the Eastern Plains Landscape Projects/programs. This is predominately a field-based position with considerable time (15-20 days per month) spent in Srepok Wildlife Sanctuary (SWS) and Phnom Prich Wildlife Sanctuary (PPWS). The post-holder will help liaise between the research team and research rangers and undertake research activities, primarily, but not limited to, work on ungulates, primates, birds,

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crocodiles and carnivores birds. The post holder will also assist with work plans, logistics, report writing and collaborating with partners.

II. Major Responsibilities:

1. Perform and assist with implementation of field-based research activities in SWS and PPWS and elsewhere in EPL. Activities include, but are not limited to line-transects, camera-trapping, DNA surveys, Siamese crocodile surveys, vulture restaurants and Ibis surveys.
2. Record all field data in a standardised method, as agreed by the Technical Adviser and Research Team, and be responsible for transferring data from the field to Sen Monorom office.
3. Assist with data entry and data checking in Sen Monorom office.
4. Organise the logistics of all field activities including purchasing and transportation of rations to field ranger teams.
5. Spend considerable time (Up to 3 weeks per month) in the field.
6. Assist with updating activity work plans
7. Assist with organising filing and data systems in collaboration with supervisor and other research team members.
8. Manage finances in an appropriate manner following all GMP guidelines.
9. Communicate with government partners and other NGO's about research activities within the Landscape
10. Assist with report writing
11. Assist with environmental community outreach programme if required
12. The post-holder will, at times, supervise Research Rangers in collaboration with his supervisor.
13. Represent WWF-Cambodia in National and International Conferences whenever requested
14. Assist with training on research methodologies whenever required
15. Share relevant news and stories with WWF- Communication Unit.

This Job Description covers the main tasks and conveys the spirit of the sort of tasks that are anticipated proactively from staff. Other tasks may be assigned as necessary by the line manager according to organizational needs.

III. Working Relationships:

Internal: EPL team including EPL manager, Research TA and senior research staff and protected area directors

External: other conservation organisations research staff (WCS, FFI, Birdlife), and protected area directors.

IV. Requirements:

1. Education and Qualification:

- Bachelor Degree in Biology, Forestry or other conservation related subject.

2. Knowledge:

- Understanding of conservation research methodologies and principals used by the EPL team
- A understanding of basic principles of collecting biological scientific data is preferable
- Knowledge of WWFs activities in the EPL is preferable
- Motorbike riding in tough field conditions
- Ability to spend considerable time in rough field conditions



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- Competency in spoken and written English
- Competency in MS Office
- Off-road motorbike riding
- Good communication skills
- Biological research skills is preferable
- Facilitation and conflict resolution skills
- Skills in forest inventory is a plus

3. Experience:

- At least two years field-based conservation research experience
- Experience of research methodologies being used by the EPL team particularly camera-trapping and distance-based line transects is preferable