

URGENT: Volunteer opportunity with WildCRU's Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme (EWCP). From mid July 09 for seven months.

The Ethiopian wolf (*Canis simensis*) is the world's rarest canid and is restricted to the Ethiopian highlands. WildCRU graduates have been studying Ethiopian wolves for over 20 years, and our current project is assessing the reproductive physiology of female Ethiopian wolves. Hormones can be measured non-invasively in faecal samples, thus providing an insight into the breeding mechanism of these communal breeders. Field work involves detailed behavioural observation of wolf packs, collecting and processing faecal samples and entering data.

Follow Ethiopian wolves on foot recording behaviour at close quarters and collecting faecal samples.

The volunteer will join an Oxford graduate and her team, studying the reproductive physiology of female wolves. He/she will be camping at the EWCP field camp in Bale's Web Valley (3,500 meters a.s.l) and working on foot and horseback track female wolves in 4 focal packs. Conditions are basic, working days long, and the mountain weather harsh and unpredictable, but this is an exciting opportunity to study these threatened canids, and gain valuable field experience studying social carnivores.

Location: Bale Mountains National Park, Southern Ethiopia (430 km from Addis Ababa).

Requirements:

Undergraduate degree in Biology/Conservation
Ability to work in difficult and remote conditions
Good level of fitness (20-30km of fellwalking a day)
Previous field experience

Flights, travel insurance and local travel will be covered, and basic accommodation will be provided.

For more information please see www.ethiopianwolf.org

<<http://www.ethiopianwolf.org/>> or contact Freya van Kesteren at freyankesteren@gmail.com before 5th Jul