

JOB DESCRIPTION – REWILDING OFFICER

Job Title: Rewilding officer- - human-wildlife conflict mitigation
Reference: RO
Reporting to: Team leader
Location: Home office, preferably in Haskovo or Kardzhali district
Type of Contract: Full time employment contract

KEY RELATIONSHIPS:

Within RRF:

1. Team leader/Executive director
2. Administrative coordinator
3. Rewilding officers
4. Communication officer
5. Enterprise officer
6. Accountant

Outside RRF:

1. BSPB
2. SSFC
3. RRF Partners
4. Local and national authorities
5. Local and national hunting associations and societies
6. External consultants and subcontractors
7. Local and national stakeholders/local community

POSSITION SUMMARY

The RO is a position under the project “From Iron Curtain to Green Belt: restoring ecological networks in Southeast Bulgaria”, funded by ELP, implemented in partnership with Bulgarian Society of Protection of Birds, Birdlife Europe and Central Asia and SSFC. The RO ensures the achievement of one of the main aims of the project and more specifically the outcome related to the improvement of human-wildlife coexistence and reduced poaching, resulting in improved conservation status of apex predators: wolf, jackal and large eagles. The RO will work in a close relation with the BSPB anti-poisoning officer as well as with RRF RO-deer and game management.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and implement anti-poaching program, in collaboration with RO deer and game management officer, coordinate the activities with relevant institutions and stakeholders, work with local communities on the poaching issues;

- Works for the establishment of a common patrolling unit to improve law enforcement, consisting of representatives of the RRF and relevant authorities and stakeholders (forest guards, police, hunting societies) to carry out patrols in the area - Strandzha, Dervent Heights, Sakar, Eastern Rhodopes and their connecting areas with a focus on the Maritsa River Valley, as a connecting territory between Eastern Rhodopes and Sakar;
- Prepares an annual work plan /schedule for the work of the patrol unit to carry out field inspections;
- Collects information on an annual basis and maintains a database on poaching events, including by placing poisoned baits, as well as information on the number of farm animals killed by wolves;
- Establishes and maintains contact with hunting societies, forest guards, police and other stakeholders in relation to the fight against poaching;
- Prepares and conducts a minimum of 5 workshops (one per year) with stakeholders on the topic of anti-poaching;
- Collects information, photos and videos from all activities for the purposes of communicating the project and dissemination of its results;
- Contributes to identification of rangers and policemen with achievements against poaching and organising awarding ceremony
- Supports the implementation of all other project activities according to their competences;
- Develop and update constantly stakeholders lists and analysis;
- Communicate and inform local stakeholders, including hunting societies on a local level about the movement of the released cinereous vultures;
- Collect data for relevant project outcome indicators, as foreseen in the Monitoring Plan (OCI 4.1; OCI 4.2 and OCI 4.4)
- Support the other RRF team members in accordance with their activities

KEY PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTS

- Labor Code and relevant legislation
- National and EU legislation relevant to wildlife restoration and management, hunting and game management
- Bulgarian Protected areas act and Biodiversity act
- RRF internal regulations

QUALIFICATIONS

- Experience in biodiversity conservation and wildlife management
- Good knowledge of the area of - Strandzha, Dervent Heights, Sakar, Rhodope mountains area and local authorities and stakeholders
- University degree
- Experience in driving
- Excellent Bulgarian knowledge, Fluency in English in an advantage

COMPETENCES AND SKILLS

- A creative and very pro-active attitude and personality with an ability to work independently
- Excellent social and presentation skills.
- Time management and prioritization skills
- Analytical skills
- Organization skills
- Responsibility