

Field assistant in a conservation research project (Sabah, Malaysia)

Position Description:

We are looking for a field assistant to help with data collection in a new project on the role of anthropogenic habitat disturbances on chronic stress in paleotropical bats. Bats will be captured using harp traps within the area of Kalabakan forest reserve, near Tawau (Sabah). Field work will be based within the SAFE project (for more information visit <http://www.safeproject.net/>).

Work in a tropical environment is physically and mentally demanding, because of high ambient temperatures, heavy rainfall and odd creatures such as leeches and mosquitoes. We will work mostly at night. Hence, applicants should be able to stay motivated even when getting exhausted. The successful applicant will live in the field camp of the SAFE project with only limited internet access and basic facilities, e.g. sleeping in hammocks, simple showers and toilets and limited privacy.

The main responsibilities of this position are to set up harp traps for capturing small bats and assist in collecting samples from bats (e.g. blood, urine and faeces).

Qualifications/Experience:

Previous field experience in the tropics (not necessarily with bats) is favorably.

Applicants should:

- have a background and strong interest in conservation biology and biodiversity.
- be prepared for long working hours in the field in a challenging environment.
- be open-minded and independent, prepared to adapt to living in a foreign culture, and able to work as part of a team.
- have a valid driving license is a plus

A good knowledge of English is an essential prerequisite for this position.

Salary/funding/travel expenses:

This is an unsalaried post; however, we will cover the transport costs in Malaysia and the living costs in the field camp. Travel expenses to and from Malaysia may be partly paid. The research assistant will be responsible for health insurance and vaccinations (proof of a valid rabies vaccination is a prerequisite).

Term of Appointment: The position is for 3 months, starting in early July 2014.

Application Deadline: Applications will be reviewed until the position is filled. Please send an email with a motivation letter, your CV, and the contact details of two references (max. 4 pages).

Contact Information: PD Dr. Christian Voigt/ Anne Seltmann

Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, Berlin, Alfred-Kowalke-Straße 17, 10315 Berlin, Germany, phone: +49-30-5168-517/-326, E-mail Address: voigt@izw-berlin.de, seltmann@izw-berlin.de; Website: <http://www.batlab.de/>

