



## CANADA'S NEW NOAHS

### A Training and Field Experience Program in the Conservation of Endangered Species for Canadian Scientists

Wildlife Preservation Canada's mission is to save animal species at risk from extinction in Canada

We do this by:

- performing hands-on work with species requiring direct intervention to recover, and
- providing opportunities for Canadian conservation scientists to grow their expertise in working with wildlife species at risk while adding to the overall body of knowledge on the subject.

Since 1988, Wildlife Preservation Canada has selected one graduate student from across Canada to become our next Canada's New Noah. The full scholarship includes travel, living and training expenses to enable the New Noah to participate in the **Durrell Post-Graduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery**. This specialized training program is designed to provide New Noahs with the field experience and species and human resource management skills needed to effectively run wildlife conservation projects. Based exclusively on the island of Mauritius (Indian Ocean) the course will run **March 29 to October 13, 2017** and consist of four weeks of intensive theory and more than 12 weeks of practical experience, based within 'live' species and habitat recovery teams working to save species around Mauritius and its offshore islands.

**Topics included in the course include:**

- Small population biology and applied genetics
- Population monitoring techniques
- Endangered species recovery techniques
- Invasive species management
- GIS skills
- Conservation planning
- Project management and leadership
- Community-based conservation and education
- Social research skills

#### Structure of the Canada's New Noahs Program

The diploma program takes place on the island of Mauritius, once the home of the ill-fated Dodo. Here, work is being conducted on some of the zoological world's most ambitious species recovery programs. The course features intensive taught modules interspersed with extended periods of time

within field teams, day-long workshops and personal study and research. You will be encouraged to develop pilot research projects on a topic of relevance to wildlife conservation, and will receive coaching on writing manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals. Within the field teams you will learn skills such as mistnetting and animal handling, supplementary feeding techniques, tree climbing, rare plant germination techniques and reptile morphometrics.

## Application and Selection

Applications consist of:

1. Completed **Application Form** (downloadable at <http://wildlifepreservation.ca/our-staff/canadasnewnoahs/>)
2. Your CV
3. Three reference letters (see **Instructions for Referees**, downloadable at <http://wildlifepreservation.ca/our-staff/canadasnewnoahs/>). All referees should be academic (instructors, supervisors) or employers.
4. \$15 application fee, made payable to Wildlife Preservation Canada

All applications must be submitted as a **single electronic file** (Word or pdf) and emailed to [canadasnewnoahs@wildlifepreservation.ca](mailto:canadasnewnoahs@wildlifepreservation.ca) by **November 13, 2016**. Application fee can be sent to the address below. **No handwritten applications will be accepted. Electronic submissions only will be accepted.**

References may be emailed directly from the referee or by the applicant. **Electronic submissions only will be accepted.**

Wildlife Preservation Canada  
5420 Highway 6 North, Guelph, ON N1H 6J2  
Tel: (519) 836-9314  
admin@wildlifepreservation.ca

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee including Wildlife Preservation Canada's Conservation Programs Director, Jessica Steiner and scientific advisor and board Vice-President Dr. Bridget Stutchbury (Canada Research Chair in Ecology & Conservation Biology). A short-list of five or six candidates will be selected for interviews. Successful applicants only will be notified by December 16, 2016.

### What does it take to become one of Canada's New Noahs?

- Canadian Citizen
- Completion of biology, zoology, veterinary or related studies at the post-secondary level
- A passionate interest and previous experience in wildlife conservation
- Previous practical experience with animals in a zoological, research and/or field environment, particularly with species at risk

- Demonstrated ability to conduct field work in remote and rustic conditions
- Ability to work closely with others as part of a team
- Ability to work independently when necessary with a minimum of direction
- Ability to be flexible and open-minded, a willingness to try one's hand at almost anything ranging from the dirty and mundane to the prestige jobs
- Ability to laugh at oneself, even while struggling to save the world
- Excellent health, climbing skills and a love of hiking
- Good communication skills
- Fluency in French an advantage, but not a requirement

### **Accommodation and Expenses**

The New Noah's travel, living and training expenses will be covered by Wildlife Preservation Canada. While in Mauritius the New Noah may share a house with staff and other field workers in Black River, other houses in different parts of the island, and/or the tented camp maintained in the forest for those working on pigeons, parakeets and passerines. Transport on Mauritius is by four-wheel vehicles, trail bikes, bicycles and on foot.

### **Training Period Dates**

The New Noah will depart for Mauritius in March, 2017 for arrival to begin the diploma course starting March 29, 2017 to October, 2017. A Canadian internship placement, working with Canadian endangered species, may follow the return from Mauritius.