



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 beginning **August 2020 – January 31, 2021** for the New Noah to participate in more than 6 months of practical experience with species and habitat recovery teams saving species on the island of Mauritius and its offshore islands. This is followed by travel to the island of Jersey to participate in the **Durrell Endangered Species Management Graduate Certificate (DESMAN) February 2021 to April 30, 2021** consisting of 12 weeks of intensive theory. 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.

Topics in the course include:

- biodiversity and drivers of species decline
- conservation planning and priority setting
- the role of zoos and captive breeding
- principles of animal husbandry
- conservation medicine and wildlife disease
- small population biology and genetics
- in-situ conservation techniques
- management and leadership skills
- facilitation and team skills
- GIS for conservation managers
- captive and field research skills
- education and community conservation
- fundraising and financial management

Structure of the Canada's New Noahs Program

The practical field experience component runs August 2020- January 31, 2021 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. This is followed by the 12 week DESMAN program which takes place on the island of Jersey at the Durrell Conservation Academy, ending April 30, 2021. The course features intensive taught modules interspersed with 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. With the field teams you will learn a wide variety of practical skills ranging from animal handling, supplementary feeding techniques, tree climbing, nest monitoring, rare plant germination techniques and measuring reptiles, among others.

Application and Selection

Applications consist of:

1. Completed **Application Form** (<https://wildlifepreservation.ca/recovery-action/canadasnewnoahs/>)
2. Your CV
3. Three reference letters (see **Instructions for Referees**, <https://wildlifepreservation.ca/recovery-action/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 by **November 30, 2019**. Application fee can be sent by cheque to the address below or e transferred to admin@wildlifepreservation.ca. **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
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 Tel: (519) 836-9314
canadasnewnoahs@wildlifepreservation.ca

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee including Wildlife Preservation Canada's Conservation Director, Jessica Steiner and scientific advisor and board President Dr. Bridget Stutchbury (Professor of Biology, York University). A short-list of six candidates will be selected for interviews. Successful applicants only will be notified in December, 2020.

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, and 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 and a love of hiking and the outdoors
- 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 field camps 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 August 2019 to participate in the six month training program from August 2020 to January 31, 2021, followed by travel to Jersey to the Durrell Conservation Academy to participate in the Durrell Endangered Species Management Graduate Certificate from February 2021-April 31, 2021. An internship placement working in Canada with endangered species, may be available upon the return from Mauritius.