



Call for Applications

Primate WATCH Program: East Africa

The [ARRC \(Avoid, Reduce, Restore and Conserve\) Task Force](#) is an initiative of the IUCN SSC PSG SGA/SSA which was developed in response to one of the greatest threats to apes, which comes from large-scale development projects (e.g. mining, hydro-electric dams, powerline). In 2021, the ARRC Task Force launched its [Primate WATCH program](#) with the aim to strengthen the capacity of primatologists in great ape countries to advise and interact with the private sector in order to avoid and minimise, as much as possible, the impacts of these projects on apes. To date, the program has gone through two iterations, one in West Africa (2021-2022) and the other in Central Africa (2022-2023). In 2024, the [Primate WATCH Network](#) was established by all previous participants to the program to facilitate and further the discussions on these issues. They aim to further broaden this network to include all future Primate WATCH participants. Their mission is to:

“Promote the conservation of great apes by providing technical advice and support to minimize the negative impacts of development projects”

Given the accelerated development of the energy, extractive and commercial agricultural industries in East Africa, there is a clear and urgent need to deploy the Primate WATCH program in this region for the benefit of primatologists in Burundi, the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda.

The selected participants will deepen their knowledge on the mitigation hierarchy and best practice standards, the environmental impact assessment process, the different stages and impacts of industrial development projects and associated infrastructures, what constitutes an appropriate baseline study, the mitigation measures that could be implemented, and how to estimate the needs for compensation. Candidates will also be required to brainstorm with their colleagues to identify gaps in the current mitigation approach in their country and propose ways to resolve these gaps.

We are looking for candidates from Burundi (1), Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (2), Rwanda (1), Tanzania (2) and Uganda (2) with the following qualifications:

- At least a master's degree in wildlife conservation or a related field;

- 5 or more years of professional experience in the conservation of primates and great apes in particular, or in a related field;
- Interest in working with and improving practices for large-scale development projects; and
- Have some experience in the private sector (preferred but not essential).

Please note that women are encouraged to apply.

Applicants will be expected to dedicate approximately 2 days per month to this program for one year (March 2025-April 2026). The training will be mostly virtual and will take place online, but there will also be two workshops (approximately 8-10 days each) in East Africa. A stipend of USD 3,000 for the entire program will be paid to each applicant to compensate for a portion of their time spent on this program. Travel, food and accommodation during the two workshops will be covered by the ARRC Task Force.

If you are interested, please send a cover letter, your CV and the contact of two references to Dr. Tatyana Humle: thumle@rewild.org

The deadline for applications is **February 7, 2025**.

If you know of suitable candidates, please feel free to circulate this announcement.

Kind regards,

Tatyana (Tanya) Humle

Primate WATCH Program Coordinator