Conservation Technology Research Intern

“In the past century FFI has consistently saved species from extinction and protected habitats from destruction. Their solutions have always been practical, efficient and sustainable in local circumstances.”

Sir David Attenborough, FFI Vice-president
Fauna & Flora International

Fauna & Flora International (FFI) saves species from extinction and habitats from destruction, while improving the livelihoods of local people. Our guiding principles are to work with and alongside local partnerships, act as a catalyst for change, make conservation relevant, and base decisions on sound science. Founded in 1903, FFI is the world’s longest established international conservation body; our conservation work, and impact, spans the globe.

Conservation Technology Team

The world is embracing ever-increasing advances and shifts in technology, creating new tools to tackle ongoing conservation challenges. Seated within FFI’s Conservation Capacity and Leadership department, the Conservation Technology Team is a dynamic and growing group of individuals committed to providing and sharing information about emerging conservation tech tools. We help ensure that FFI operates at the cutting edge of nature conservation efforts globally. Our mission is to build the capacity and knowledge in our regional teams and local partners to appropriately apply these tools – including drones, camera traps, networked sensors, eDNA, and Artificial Intelligence – to solve nature and climate crises.

The Opportunity

FFI is offering a paid internship for a three-month period from October 2022. The Conservation Technology Team is looking for a passionate and proactive individual who is open to learning and able to pick up new skills. The goal of this internship is to consolidate and share best practices for the application of emerging hardware and software to conservation issues. Working with the Conservation Technology Team, you will identify the challenges and opportunities presented by a wide variety of conservation tech tools. You will help maintain, improve, and develop resources for wider conservation capacity and knowledge transfer that will inform the on-going work of our regional teams and local partner organisations.

The successful candidate will have a proven interest in pursuing a career in conservation along with demonstrated interest in the use of technology to address practical conservation problems. You will need the ability to understand technical language and ‘translate’ these applications for the conservation sector. This is an exciting opportunity to participate in the development and utilisation of cutting-edge tools, challenging technological developments into positive outcomes for the world’s biodiversity. Through this position, you will broaden your understanding of key areas in conservation technology; develop research, writing, and communication skills; and gain experience working for an international conservation organisation.

Please note that this internship has been designed to create a professional development opportunity for people who are new to the conservation sector. Therefore, applicants should have less than two years paid or unpaid experience in the conservation sector (not including education).
Terms and Conditions

Start Date: 1 October 2022

Duration of Contract: Three months

Probation Period: Four weeks

Salary: £18,525 per annum

Location: Fauna & Flora International, Cambridge, UK
          Current policy offers partial remote working within the UK

Benefits: 25 working days’ annual holiday entitlement plus Public/Bank
          Holidays and any normal working days that fall between 24
          December to 1 January inclusive, during which time FFI UK offices
          are closed
          Group Life insurance, currently set at a benefit of 4 x basic salary

Hours of Work: This is a full-time position working 37.5 hours per week, Monday-
               Friday inclusive

Job Description

Job Title: Conservation Technology Research Intern

Reporting to: Senior Conservation Technology Specialist

Key Relationships: Senior Conservation Technology Specialist
                  Remote Sensing Technical Specialist
                  Analytics Technical Specialist
                  Analytics Officers
                  In-country conservation technology practitioners

Purpose:

This role will identify the challenges and opportunities offered by emerging forms of conservation
technology identified as high priority by the FFI Conservation Technology Team. Through desk-
based research, you will compile online resource libraries to support the uptake and appropriate use
of conservation technology within FFI. You will support the team in synthesising and presenting
accessible information on a wide variety of hardware and software tools used for wildlife protection
and resource management. This information will be used to structure best practice guides for project
design and data analysis and be made publicly available as a support tool for the broader
conservation community. In addition, you will connect with regional teams and FFI’s local partners
to compile case studies and ‘lessons learned’, and identify practitioners within the organisation who
can serve as champions for specific technological tools.

**Specific Duties:**

- Read FFI’s reports and proposals to identify what conservation technology tools are being used across the organisation.
- Conduct short interviews with project teams to obtain further information on team needs and challenges.
- Highlight gaps and opportunities for the use of emerging technology tools within the organisation.
- Brainstorm with the Conservation Technology Team to identify a short-list of tools that would be broadly applicable to teams across FFI.
- Compile and synthesise information on the use of these tools from research articles, protocols, tutorials, seminars/webinars, and other ‘best practice’ guides
- Curate webpages of information to guide practitioners in the application of short-listed tools, highlighting opportunities, challenges, and alternatives that ensure that technology is applied in a thoughtful and considered manner.

The outputs of this internship will produce guidance for FFI staff and partners to support the direct application of conservation technology approaches in regional projects to maximise biodiversity impact.

**Person Specification**

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<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Skills</strong></td>
<td>Good research skills</td>
<td>Experience with document research</td>
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<td>Ability to gather information and synthesise it into a concise format</td>
<td>Experience developing communication materials (e.g., easy-to-read and visual reports)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>A good writing style, with the ability to summarise technical information for a range of audiences.</td>
<td>Experience with GitHub</td>
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<td>Good organisational and time management skills</td>
<td>Undergraduate degree or equivalent experience in Wildlife Conservation, Environmental</td>
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<td>A structured and methodical approach to work</td>
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<td>Fluency in written and spoken English</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge and experience</strong></td>
<td>Experience in conducting desk-based research, sifting through information and compiling reports.</td>
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<td>Some knowledge about the conservation sector</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Some knowledge about the conservation technology sector (hardware and/or software used for wildlife and protected areas)</td>
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<td><strong>monitoring, management and/or protection</strong></td>
<td><strong>Science, Biology, or similar subject</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Behavioural qualities</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friendly and personable</strong></td>
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<td>• Enthusiastic</td>
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<td>• Strong interest in conservation</td>
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<td>• Open to learning and able to pick up new skills</td>
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<td>• Team player who is also able to work independently and use their own initiative</td>
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<td>• Very organised with the capacity to achieve tight deadlines</td>
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<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td><strong>Capacity to meet with the team in person (only if needed and possible)</strong></td>
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<td>• Less than two years paid or unpaid experience in the conservation sector (not including education)</td>
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<td>• Interest and empathy with the mission and values of FFI</td>
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<td>• Pre-existing right to work in the UK</td>
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<td>• Available for the full three-month internship</td>
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**FFI Values**

Values underpin who we are and how we act. Just as values shape who we are as individuals, they define us as an organisation, creating the culture of success for which Fauna & Flora International (FFI) is renowned. Our people exemplify our shared values, which are interconnected and interdependent:

- We act with integrity
- We are collaborative
- We are committed
- We are supportive & respectful
- We get things done

**How to Apply**

Applications should consist of the following:

- Covering letter confirming your interest and explaining how your experience and skills refer to the role
- Full CV
- Contact details for two referees (who will not be contacted without your permission)

Applications should be sent to meredith.palmer@fauna-flora.org
Please mark your application ‘Conservation Technology Research Intern’ and indicate where you saw the position advertised.

The closing date for applications is Sunday, 11 September 2022. Interviews are likely to be held during the week commencing 19 September 2022. Candidates selected for interview will be contacted by email or telephone – please specify your preferred method of contact in your covering letter and indicate where you saw the position advertised.

Regrettably, due to limited resources and the high number of applications we receive, we are only able to contact short-listed candidates. If you do not hear from us within four weeks of the closing date, please assume that you have not been successful on this occasion.

**Applicants with Disabilities**

FFI encourages applications from individuals with a disability who are able to carry out the duties of the post. If you have special needs in relation to your application, please contact Jade Bedwell, HR Adviser, FFI, on Tel: +44 (0)1223 749044 or Email: jade.bedwell@fauna-flora.org.

FFI values diversity and is committed to equality of opportunity