



**ENDANGERED
WILDLIFE TRUST**
Protecting forever, together.

Legal Officer

Purpose of the job:

The Endangered Wildlife Trust, one of the largest biodiversity conservation NGOs in Africa, is seeking to appoint a Legal Officer in its LAWS (Land, Air, Water, and Species) Unit. The vision of the LAWS Unit is Robust legal and governance frameworks enable responsible environmental decision-making and activities resulting in environmental (Land, Air, Water and Species) protection. To achieve this vision, the LAWS Unit works across three core strategies of promoting conservation, ensuring good governance, and supporting legal compliance and justice.

Key Responsibilities:

The Legal Officer will be instrumental in the implementation of legally based interventions that support conservation efforts and strengthen legal compliance. Responsibilities include:

- **Enhancing Conservation through Legal Innovation:**
 - Support the development and implementation legal strategies to promote conservation.
 - Support legal reform and policy development.
 - Provide legal assistance for Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) and Protected Area declarations.
 - Conduct research and analysis to support conservation objectives.
- **Environmental Compliance and Enforcement:**
 - Facilitate training programmes on environmental compliance and enforcement.
 - Conduct research and provide insights on environmental enforcement mechanisms and justice systems.
- **Advancing Environmental Restorative Justice:**
 - Support the drafting of at least 10 impact statements.
- **Promoting Regulatory Knowledge:**
 - Enhance the understanding and application of environmental law within the public sector.
 - Develop and deliver targeted training sessions/workshops on environmental law.
- **Policy Research and Advocacy:**
 - Identify gaps and opportunities in South Africa's environmental laws and policies.
 - Provide analysis and recommendations on regulatory frameworks and draft policy documents.
- **Project Proposal Development:**
 - Contribute to the development of project proposals to secure funding and support for the LAWS Unit's initiatives.

Qualifications, experience and competencies required:

- A LLB (required).
- An LLM in environmental law or at least 3 years working in environmental would be an advantage.
- Working knowledge of environmental law, environmental threats and mitigation strategies.
- Excellent administrative skills, excellent organisation skills and the proven ability to work under pressure.

- Strong writing skills and the ability to write for a variety of audiences.
- Media engagement experience and proven public speaking confidence.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite.
- Fluency in English.
- Valid SA driver's license

Additional requirements that would be advantageous:

- National and/or regional/international policy advocacy experience including high-level political negotiations, preferably within a southern African context.
- A proven track record in applied conservation research.
- Competency in Geographic Information Systems (ArcGIS or QGIS).
- Fluency in one other relevant South African language.
- A passion for conservation and our natural heritage.

Interpersonal skills:

- Self-disciplined, self-motivated, innovative and energetic.
- Excellent team collaboration skills.
- Excellent communication and networking skills.
- The ability to work both independently and as part of team.
- Approachable and adept at building relationships with diverse stakeholders.

This position is based at the EWT's Head Office in Johannesburg. The Endangered Wildlife Trust is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. All qualified applicants will be considered without regard to race, religion, sex, national origin, or disability.

Applicants are requested to submit a CV and a detailed cover letter motivation as to how and why they would be the best possible candidate for this position. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted within 20 days of the closing date. The EWT reserves the right not to make an appointment. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence. **Closing date: 20 December 2024.** To apply please e-mail your CV and a detailed motivation letter to [Application link](#).