



**INTERNAL & EXTERNAL
PARK SUPPORT ECOLOGIST UDP
Scientist (Production) Grade B
ECOLOGICAL ADVICE UNIT,
SCIENTIFIC SERVICES – MIDMAR REGIONAL OFFICE
POST NUMBER: 706003**

TOTAL REMUNERATION PACKAGE: R 821 142.00p/a

The KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation Board, trading as Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, is a PFMA Schedule 3C public entity established in terms of the KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation Management Act (Act No. 9 of 1997).

THE ENTITY:

The KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation Board, trading as Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, is a PFMA Schedule 3C public entity established in terms of the KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation Management Act (Act No. 9 of 1997). The entity is responsible for the management of nature conservation within the Province of KwaZulu-Natal including protected areas as well as the development and promotion of ecotourism and facilities within the protected areas. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife wishes to appoint a suitable candidate for the position of Park Support Ecologist UDP.

PURPOSE OF THE JOB:

To support the Park Ecologist in providing ecological and scientific advice and information to the park and regional management team, and to other stakeholders, in support of conservation decision making in the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site and its' buffer zone in western and south-western KwaZulu-Natal (both within and out of protected areas). A strong focus on biological monitoring and field data collection, data management and analysis, invasive species management, and science communication/provision of management advice.

QUALIFICATIONS

- A Master's degree in Biological Science with an Ecological focus is Mandatory.
- A Ph.D. degree in Biological Science with an Ecological focus will be an added advantage.
- A valid Code B driver's licence is Mandatory.
- Registration with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions as a professional natural scientist will be an added advantage.

EXPERIENCE

- Minimum of 3 years fieldwork experience in African ecosystems
- Knowledge of and experience working in grassland and forest ecosystems would be an added advantage.

- Experience, ability, and willingness to undertake aerial surveys and monitoring would be a strong advantage.

KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Compile biological sections of Protected Area Management Plans and contribute to priority and invasive species conservation strategies.
- Review Protected Area Management Plans, District Management Plans, Concept Development Plans, and other conservation strategies.
- Design and implement monitoring programmes for priority species and ecosystems.
- Undertake field data collection.
- Curate, analyse and interpret biological data.
- Disseminate/communicate monitoring and scientific research results and ensure these are effectively integrated into management programmes.
- Liaise with and support tertiary institutions and partner organisations (SAEON, EFTEON) regarding research and monitoring projects in protected areas.
- Write scientific papers, popular articles, reports and management guidelines.
- Undertake formal and informal daily interaction with EKZNW staff to raise awareness of biodiversity and conservation principles and issues.
- Liaise with outside organisations and represent Ezemvelo at local, regional, provincial, national, and international levels on issues relating to biodiversity and conservation.

KEY COMPETENCIES REQUIRED

- Biodiversity research and analysis methodologies
- Ecology theory and principles
- Ecological data collection methods and practices
- Application of ecology in nature conservation

DIRECTIONS TO APPLYING CANDIDATES:

The following **mandatory documents** must be submitted.

- Fully completed Ezemvelo Application Form for Employment (available from <http://www.kznwildlife.com/careers>)
- Applications without Ezemvelo Application Form and incomplete forms **will not** be considered.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be required to submit certified application supporting documents, including qualifications certificates, Driver's License, Identity Document (ID) etc.

The appointment to the post is subject to a positive outcome obtained from all verifications in relation to the position advertised.

Applicants are encouraged to apply for posts through the KZN online e-Recruitment system at www.kznonline.gov.za/kznjobs or submit their Ezemvelo application form directly to the following email address recruitments@kznwildlife.com.

Applicants may also visit any KZN Department's and Public Entity's Designated Online Application Centres (DOACs) where staff will assist you with applying for jobs on the KZN online e-Recruitment system or receiving your hardcopy application.

You can find the list of Designated Online Application Centers (DOACS) at www.kznonline.gov.za/kznjobs.

Please note that applicants should only use one of the following methods when applying for a post:

- either through the online e-Recruitment system,
- emailing Ezemvelo application form directly to recruitments@kznwildlife.com
- submit a hardcopy application to one of the Designated Online Application Centres (DOACS)

For any queries relating to this job-application please contact Recruitment Office on **033 845 1761** during office hours.

Closing Date: 14 February 2025

Applications received after the closing date will **not** be considered. Applicants not contacted within 30 days of the advertisement closing date should consider their applications unsuccessful.

Selection will be made in terms of the Organization's Employment Equity Plan and Preference will be given to members of designated groups. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife reserves the right not to make the appointment towards this post.