Partner Organization Project Proposal
Conservation Leadership through Learning - Colorado State University

Thank you for your interest in CLTL. We are excited to work with you to develop Final Project opportunities for our students. Please read through our Project Partner webpage, and then fill out this project interest form to let us know about your project ideas.

Organization Information
Organization Name: Durrell Conservation Training Ltd
Primary Contact: Jamie Copsey
Office Phone Number: Alternate Phone Number:
Primary Contact Email:

Project Information
Students will participate in coursework at CSU from August 2016 to May 2017. In-situ work will commence June 2017 and be completed by October 1, with all deliverables completed by December 1, 2017.

☑ Please check this box to acknowledge these dates.

Brief Project Description:
1) Human-wildlife conflict: Public perception and behavioral change in relation to perceived and actual impacts of fruit bats on commercial and small-scale fruit growers. The project would build on existing work to measure existing perceptions and attitudes towards fruit bats and test out mitigation measures to alleviate priority negative impacts. Other projects involving a human/wildlife theme are possible.
2) Eco-tourism and public engagement: The island of Ile aux Aigrettes has been restored with native faunas and flora and is open to guided tours. The project could address a number of questions: A) assessment of knowledge and attitude change towards conservation as a consequence of a guided tour or B) understanding ‘willingness to pay’ for a guided tour and how the project could better engage international visitors.
3) Valuing island biodiversity: The offshore islands are home to endemic wildlife. While rules are in place to govern the use and misuse of the islands, there are regular fires and other damage that threaten these systems. This project would identify key stakeholders and users of the islands, understand their current perceptions, knowledge and attitudes towards the value of these islands, and identify how we might shift human behavior to wiser use of the systems.
4) Developing a management plan for a new reserve: Montrains Nature Reserve is a small reserve, which supports a diversity of endemic plant life. There are plans to develop the reserve as an eco-tourism venture. This project would conduct a feasibility study, generating a provisional management plan for the reserve.

Below are the project criteria. Please check each criterion the project would likely meet.

☑ Community-based: on-the-ground work at a community/regional level, including interactions with and/or exposure to local decision-makers and/or stakeholders
☑ Multi-disciplinary: analysis and investigation of a conservation issue through multiple lenses (e.g., ecological, economic, social, political)
☑ Cross-cultural: opportunities for students to interact with individuals and/or in a culture vastly different than their own
☑ Networking: opportunities for students to interact with other conservation professionals

Final projects should provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge from their CLTL coursework. Please check the topics the proposed project would address:

☑ Biodiversity ☐ Systems thinking
☐ Governance/Decision-making ☐ Policy
☐ Facilitation ☑ Ecosystem services
☑ Spatial analysis ☐ Collaborative conservation
☑ Social science research methods ☑ Ecological research methods
☑ Multi-level views of conservation ☑ Outreach
Students are required to provide their project partner with a professional-level deliverable (e.g., management plan, technical report, communication materials, set of policy briefs, series of podcasts, etc.). Please provide a brief description of potential deliverables for your project:

Depending on the project chosen, students would produce:
1) Management plan
2) Technical reports
3) Public engagement materials/ educational materials
4) Peer-reviewed publications

Please describe the project team, including who the student(s) would likely work with at the project site or if it would be mostly independent:
The student would work independently, but would be tutored by Jamie Copsey along with the relevant staff member from the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation.

---

**Project Details**

Project location (city, state/province, country): Mauritius

Desired Number of Students: Min 1 Max 3

Please indicate in-kind support, if any, the student would receive (check all that apply):
- Room and board during fieldwork
- Room and board during entire project
- Translators
- Research assistant(s)
- Travel to/from U.S. to project location
- Travel within/around project location
- Additional support

Please describe:
It might be possible to provide accommodation and certain travel arrangements within Mauritius.

Preferred/Required skills and experience of the student(s):
Language proficiency: □ Preferred □ Required Specify language: English (preferred)/French(good if available though not essential)

Technical skills: □ Preferred □ Required

Please specify:

Prior experience in country/region: □ Preferred □ Required

Please describe the connectivity at project site (e.g., internet access, mobile phone coverage):
Depending on the project site, there is internet access available and there is mobile phone coverage throughout the island.

Additional Comments:
Students might have opportunities to take part in formal training events while in Mauritius to build their management and leadership capacities.

---

Thank you for proposing a CLTL Final Project. We will contact you with any further questions about the proposed projects. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at Terra.Smith@colostate.edu. We look forward to working with you.