

REVIEW

Organization Name: Wildlife ACT

Location: South Africa

Website: <http://www.wildlifeact.com>

VERDICT: HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Project Overview: Wildlife ACT is a purely research based organization that works within several large reserves in Zululand, South Africa. They also have a couple marine conservation projects in Africa. The organization was created by several South Africans who have passion and experience in field guide and research work. This is a great organization that has ties to many large conservation organizations like WWF, Panthera, and has won a few awards for responsible tourism and are Fair Trade certified.

There are several things you can do with Wildlife ACT, from volunteering to internships and taking courses. As a volunteer, the only project available is research and field work. This ranges in activities from wildlife monitoring to collaring and game counts. These projects take place within the reserves, so you not only work in the reserves but you live in them too during your stay. The groups are kept small, only 5 total volunteers are taken in one reserve at one time, so that you can expect a very personal experience.

This website is very informative and though. There is a breakdown of exactly how your money is spent and what to expect when volunteering.

Is it Conservation?: Yes. This is purely research of wildlife in their natural habitat.

Verdict Explanation: This project and organization gets high marks. Although your options are limited, they go above and beyond to ensure that the research has a positive impact. Wildlife ACT comes in to help the animals that live in these reserves when no one else can afford to do so. Your money and time goes to a real impactful conservation purpose.

I have volunteered with Wildlife ACT researching African Wild Dogs in Zululand, South Africa. It was truly a remarkable experience, long days spent with one pack of dogs. While we searched for the dogs, we would encounter many other animals and would do a lot of documentation research purposes. I can tell you that they take true pride and passion in their work. Each volunteer group is led by scientists (1-3) and training is provided.

These reviews are based solely on my opinion and research done by leading conservation organizations

