

## **Job description**

**Position:** Research Team Manager (volunteer)

**Location:** Remote

**Time Commitment:** 6-10 hours per week (flexible schedule)

**Reports to:** DevMarComm Director

### **About NALZS:**

North Alabama Zoological Society (NALZS) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing a zoo and aquarium to the Greater Huntsville Alabama area. As we strive to create an exceptional zoo and aquarium, our nonprofit's mission is to foster connections between the communities and visitors of North Alabama with the wonders of the world's natural habitats and wildlife. We aim to set a standard of excellence in conservation, research, action, and education of wildlife, all while inspiring a brighter future for generations to come.

### **Job Summary:**

Are you a research guru with a passion for wildlife and a knack for building dreams from the ground up? Do you possess the skills to lead a team of dedicated researchers and further our Zoological Society? If so, we have the perfect job for you as the Research Team Manager at the North Alabama Zoological Society!

We are seeking a highly motivated and experienced Research Team Manager to join our dynamic team. As the Research Team Manager, you will play a crucial role in developing and implementing a comprehensive research program at the North Alabama Zoo. You will be responsible for overseeing a team of researchers and ensuring the successful execution of research projects focused on animal behavior, zoos, conservation, and related fields. The Research Team Manager will work closely with other departments within the organization to integrate research findings into educational programs and contribute to the overall success of the zoo.

## **Responsibilities:**

*Note that due to the volunteer nature of the position, the execution of the responsibilities as outlined below will not be expected all the time. This is more of an exhaustive list of potential areas and expertise that may be called upon from time to time as an occasion may dictate.*

### 1. Research Program Development:

- Develop and implement a strategic research plan aligned with the zoological society's mission and goals.
- Identify research priorities and opportunities, considering both local and global challenges.
- Establish research objectives, methodologies, and timelines for various projects.
- Collaborate with internal and external stakeholders to foster partnerships and secure funding for research initiatives.

### 2. Team Management:

- Recruit, train, and manage a team of researchers, ensuring their professional growth and development.
- Provide leadership, guidance, and support to the research team, fostering a collaborative and inclusive work environment.
- Delegate tasks, set clear expectations, and monitor progress to ensure timely project completion.

### 3. Research Project Oversight:

- Coordinate and oversee all aspects of research projects, including experimental design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation.
- Ensure compliance with ethical standards and animal welfare guidelines in all research activities.
- Maintain accurate records and documentation of research activities, results, and publications.

- Regularly report on research progress, findings, and challenges to the management team and key stakeholders.
4. Collaboration and Integration:
- Collaborate with the Programs Department to integrate research findings into educational programs, exhibits, and outreach initiatives.
  - Establish and maintain partnerships with academic institutions, conservation organizations, and industry professionals to enhance research opportunities.
5. Budget and Resource Management:
- Prepare and manage the research department's budget, ensuring optimal allocation of resources.
  - Identify and secure external funding sources, including grants, sponsorships, and partnerships.
  - Monitor expenditures, control costs, and provide financial reports as required.

**Qualifications:**

- An advance degree in a relevant field (e.g., zoology, biology, conservation science) is strongly preferred. A Master's degree with extensive research experience may be considered.
- Minimum of 5 years of experience in managing research projects, preferably in a zoological or conservation setting.
- Proven track record of conducting independent research, including experimental design, data analysis, and publication.
- Strong leadership and team management skills, with the ability to motivate and develop a diverse group of researchers.
- Excellent organizational, problem-solving, and project management skills.
- Knowledge of research methodologies and statistical analysis techniques.
- Familiarity with ethical considerations and animal welfare guidelines in research.
- Experience in grant writing and securing research funding is highly desirable.

- Effective communication skills, both written and verbal, with the ability to present complex scientific concepts to diverse audiences.
- Passion for conservation, wildlife, and education

Ready to lead the way in scientific discovery and shape a zoo that will inspire generations? Join the North Alabama Zoological Society and let your research skills roar! Apply now and be part of an exhilarating journey as we create a haven for wildlife and conservation!

Note: This is a volunteer position and does not offer financial compensation. However, it presents a unique opportunity to contribute to the establishment of a zoo and aquarium in the Greater Huntsville Alabama area and make a lasting impact on the community. It isn't very often that one gets to help build a brand-new zoo from scratch. The position may become a paid position in the future.

Thank you for your interest in joining the North Alabama Zoological Society (NALZS) Family and helping us create an exceptional zoological experience for our community.