



TAMIL NADU FOREST DEPARTMENT
ADVANCED INSTITUTE FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
VANDALUR



ANNOUNCEMENT

WINTER INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME, 2025-26

ADVT. No: 08/ 2025/D dated 28.10.2025

Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC) is a premier Research Institution set up by the Forest Department of Tamil Nadu, primarily to provide scientific solutions to conservation problems. The Institute conducts multidisciplinary wildlife research, capacity building in wildlife conservation, training programs and advisories in wildlife research by partnering with leading research institutions in India. During 2018-19, AIWC initiated the internship programmes open for students to cater the academic needs of post- graduate students across the state. In order to attract more students to work in the field of wildlife conservation, AIWC has planned to continue the winter internship programme 2025-26 under the Centre for Conservation Education.

The objectives of the internship programme are: -

1. To provide a framework by which post-graduate students or students pursuing post-graduation from diverse academic backgrounds, may conduct research at AIWC, to enhance their educational experience through practical work assignments.
2. To provide the Institute's expertise and facilities to the highly motivated and talented students to conduct research in key thematic areas in wildlife conservation in Tamil Nadu.

Age limit:

Below 28 years

Duration:

The duration of the certificate course ranges from 1 month to 2 months and depends on the area of research work.

Mode of Admission:

The candidates will be selected on the basis of merit (marks) scored in the post-graduation degree programme and direct evaluation of student profile/ academic interest by internal committee of AIWC. Applications for the internship programme must be duly forwarded by the student along with bonafide certificate and letters of reference from Head of the Institution in which the student is currently studying.

Project based Positions:

Internship Programme is essentially a laboratory or field-based programme with due emphasis given for conducting a field-based project that can be supplemented with data from labs.

The programme will mainly focus towards supporting the regular activities as well as ongoing projects of the institute. The internship programme could be in the specified focus area of the institute as presented below;

I. APO, 2024-25

- Genetic differentiation of domestic and wild pig through highly sensitive SNP qPCR and SNP PCR-RFLP assay.
- Development of Fourier Transform Infra-Red spectral library for DNA genotyping challenging Forensic samples.
- Development of post-mortem interval estimation for wild animal remains using carrion insects' life stages in Tamil Nadu.
- Development of Spatial Decision Support System (SDSS) Facility in AIWC.
- Spatial Distribution and Habitat Assessment of Indian Bengal Fox and Jackals in Tamil Nadu.
- Occupancy and habitat preferences of Indian pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*) in Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR) of Tamil Nadu.

II. TANIL, 2024-25

Development of a microsatellite panel for differentiating cattle, Indian gaur and deer to the level of species and individuality.

III. Legislative Announcements, 2025-2026

1. Establishment of Tamil Nadu Raptors Research Foundation (TNRFF).
2. Conservation of Bengal Fox and Jackal for the ecological balance of habitat.
3. Conservation initiative to study the population dynamics, behavioural pattern and habitat improvement of Smooth Coated Otters in Thanjavur and Thiruvarur Districts.
4. Tracking fine-scale movements of Olive Ridley Turtles of Tamil Nadu coast and near-shore through Telemetry study for a period of two years.
5. Establishment of two new Research centres at AIWC.
6. Establishment of six new Wildlife Conservation Innovation cum Incubation Centres.
7. Launch of certificate programme for 20,000 students in Tamil Nadu.
8. Conservation of endangered species.

IV. Projects funded by Tiger Conservation Foundation

Evaluating immunocontraception as a tool on mitigating human-elephant conflict in Tamil Nadu

No. of Interns required for the programme

S. No	Project Domain	Number of Interns	Duration
1.	Centre for Wildlife Forensic	1	1 month/2 months
2.	Centre for Animal Care Sciences	1	1 month/2 months
3.	Centre for Conservation Education	1	1 month/2 months
4.	Centre for Conservation Ecology	1	1 month/2 months
5.	Centre for Conservation and Evolutionary Genetics	1	1 month/2 months
6.	Centre for Species Survival	1	1 month/2 months

Eligibility:

Students undergoing Master's programme in Wildlife Biology, Ecology, Zoology, Forestry, Biotechnology, Genetic Engineering and Environmental Sciences.

An internal committee of the institute will screen scholars in the required field of work and upon acceptance by the Director AIWC, permission would be granted to conduct the research work on the concerned topic. The interns will present and defend their findings and submit both hard and soft copies of the project work, in the prescribed format to Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation.

Publication:

The results of research project will be encouraged to publish in standard refereed journals as well as other popular forms of scientific documentation at the discretion of Director, AIWC. Due authorship will be given to all researchers and other team members, who have contributed to research papers.

Mode of Application:

The application form and other information could be downloaded from Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation website <http://www.aiwc.res.in>

Documents needed from the applicant includes;

- Application form in prescribed format.
- Curriculum Vitae of the applicant.
- Letter of Intent from the applicant (Not exceeding 1000 words).
- No objection Certificate from the College / University.
- Letter of recommendation from Head of Institution.
- Copy of College ID card.

The duly filled-in application form along with required documents in the prescribed format can be submitted through email at aiwcrte@tn.gov.in **on or before 15.11.2025**. The documents will be checked in original, once the application is accepted.

General Terms and Conditions:

1. The AIWC internship programme is purely on voluntary basis and subject to screening process.
2. The interns should abide to the usual terms and specific conditions laid down by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Director, Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation, Vandalur.
3. The interns will be subjected to periodical monitoring by AIWC authorities, regarding the progress of study work.
4. In case of field study, the interns should contact the concerned Forest Rangers/ Foresters and intimate them in advance about their visits and should not venture into the protected Forest areas without the support of Forest Department staffs /Biologists during their field study. To facilitate that Director, AIWC shall issue authorization letters to concerned DFO's well in advance.
5. Sample collection, if any, should be done in the presence of Forest Department staff. The interns may collect the required secondary data specific to their study from the respective Forest and Wildlife Divisions as per its availability.
6. The interns should not harm any flora or fauna of the Protected Areas / Reserve Forests.
7. The interns should not carry any inflammable material objects or kindle fire in any part of the Protected Areas.
8. The Government/Department / Institute will not be held responsible for any chance encounter and any accident which may occur due to fire incident/ wild animals attack during their study period.
9. The interns should not share any wildlife related details with anyone without the knowledge of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Director, Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation, Vandalur and also should not publish the same in any Scientific Journals and share with any private organizations.
10. The interns should submit two copies of final study report (both in soft and hard copy) to The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Director, Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation, after the completion of their study period
11. If the interns do not submit the final study report to this office, the candidates from the concerned College / Department /Institute will not be considered for future internship.

Sd/- A.Udhayan,
Principal Chief Conservator
of Forests & Director,
AIWC (R, T & E) Vandalur

//t.c.b.o.//


Superintendent

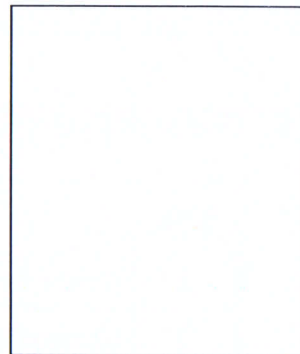

28/10/25



TAMIL NADU FOREST DEPARTMENT
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VANDALUR



APPLICATION FORM FOR INTERNSHIP



1. Name of the applicant: _____

Phone/Fax # _____

Email _____

B. Permanent residential address with *pin code* _____

Phone/Fax # _____

2. Date of birth _____ Age in years (as on 01.10.2025) _____

3. (a) Academic achievements:

Examinations Passed	Year	University	Subject	Percentage of Marks Obtained
Bachelor's Degree				
Master's Degree				
Others				

(b) Creative achievement (State briefly your bio data as research worker/giving details of research papers, participation in seminar, symposium, conference, etc.).
(Furnish this information in a separate sheet)

4. National parks, sanctuaries & forest areas visited, and a paragraph on self interest in the field of wildlife conservation & research.

5. Areas of research interest. *(Details may be given in a separate sheet).*

6. Choice of Centre for internship:

S.No.	Centre	Kindly tick the subject of interest
1	Centre for Wildlife Forensic	
2	Centre for Animal Care Sciences	
3	Centre for Conservation Education	
4	Centre for Conservation Ecology	
5	Centre for Conservation & Evolutionary Genetics	
6	Centre for Species Survival	

7. Name, complete postal address and phone number of two referees should be given below.

1.

2.

8. List of attachments

S.No.	Attachments required	Status (Yes/No)
1.	Curriculum vitae	
2.	Letter of intent from applicant (not more than 1000 words)	
3.	No objection certificate from college/university	
4.	Recommendation letter from Head of Institution	
5.	Photocopy of College ID card	

I, _____ hereby, certify that the information furnished above are correct to the best of my knowledge.

Place:

Date:

(Signature of the Applicant)