

Yvonne A. de Jong Ph.D.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Date of Birth: 26 December 1970
Place of Birth: The Netherlands
Nationality: Dutch
Profession: Primatologist, conservationist, wildlife manager
Driving licences: Dutch & Kenyan

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Education

- 2011-2012 Ph.D. Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK.
- 2002-2004 M.Sc. Primate Conservation, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK
- 1992-1996 B.Sc. Hons, Animal Management, Van Hall Institute, The Netherlands
Majors: Wildlife Management & Zoos, Policy & Education
- 1988-1992 Laboratory School, Stratingh College, The Netherlands
Major: Chemistry
Examination subjects: biology, biochemistry, biotechnology, microbiology

Professional interests

Biogeography, taxonomy, natural history, ecology, and conservation of African primates, desert warthog (*Phacochoerus aethiopicus*), common warthog (*Phacochoerus africanus*), dik-dik (*Madoqua*), Maasai apalis (*Apalis stronachi*), African golden cat (*Caracal aurata*), East African springhare (*Pedetes surdaster*), and other African mammals. Photography, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), bioacoustics and camera trapping.

Past and Current Professional Experience

January 2023 – present

Research project: Horn of Africa Antelope Diversity & Conservation Program

Determine the taxonomic status, distribution, relative abundance, and threats of the antelopes of northern Kenya, provide information for the next *IUCN Red List* reassessments of their degree of threat status, provide recommendations for ameliorating the threats and bring attention to the unique biodiversity of this region.

June 2001 – present

Research project: Eastern Africa Primate Diversity and Conservation Program

Long-term program in cooperation with Dr T.M. Butynski. The aim is to answer scientific primate related questions and fill knowledge gaps concerning primate biogeography, diversity, abundance, taxonomy and conservation in eastern Africa. The Program collects data by conducting fieldwork, review literature, communicate with others and by analyzing museum collections. Additional activities include action planning, assessments of East Africa's Primates for IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, compilation of Pocket Identification Guides, and ranger monitoring trainings.

May 2012 – present

Research project: Distribution, Abundance, Ecology, and Conservation Status of the Desert Warthog (*Phacochoerus aethiopicus*) and Common Warthog (*Phacochoerus africanus*) in the Horn of Africa

Research project focussing on the desert warthog *Phacochoerus aethiopicus* in the Horn of Africa. The primary objectives of this project are to: (1) Obtain information on the distribution and abundance of *P. aethiopicus* and *P. africanus* in the Horn of Africa; (2) Obtain a large body of new ecological and behavioral data; (3) Reassess the conservation status of both warthog species for the region.

2025

Offsetting Coordinator for Tanzania. East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP). Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

April 2022

Training course: Natural History and Large Mammal Monitoring, Mahale Mountains National Park, Tanzania

A two-weeks natural history and large mammal monitoring training course for Greystoke Mahale Camp guides and trackers and Tanzania National Park (TANAPA) rangers, in Mahale National Park. The aim of the exercise was to train the rangers and guides in natural history research techniques, but also to identify a tourist hiking circuit from Lake Tanganyika up to the highest ridges in MMNP, to find the best sites for tourist camps and scenic views and for mammal and bird spotting.

May 2013 – 2020

Senior ecologist at the Lolldaiga Hills Research Programme, Sustainability Centre Eastern Africa (Kenya)

January 2016 – October 2016

Consultancy: South Western Mau Forest Reserve, Game Proof Barrier Feasibility Study

Impact assessment and design of a potential game proof barrier along the South West Mau Forest Reserve, based on desk study, interviews and meetings with the community and their leaders, questionnaires and forest exploitation and wildlife surveys. Consultancy for Rhino Ark Charitable Trust, the Initiative for Sustainable Landscapes (ISLA), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), and Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS).

November 2009 – February 2010

Consultancy: Guide Training and Expansion of Nature Tourism Activities at Greystoke-Mahale, Tanzania (Phase II).

Establish Greystoke-Mahale as the premier primate-viewing and montane forest tourism destination in Africa, and maintain this status over the long-term. In cooperation with Dr T.M. Butynski. Funded by Nomad Tanzania, Ltd.

December 2008 – April 2009

Consultancy: Guide Training and Expansion of Nature Tourism Activities at Greystoke-Mahale, Tanzania (Phase I).

Establish Greystoke-Mahale as the premier primate-viewing and montane forest tourism destination in Africa, and maintain this status over the long-term. A total of 84 days of work in cooperation with Dr T.M. Butynski. Funded by Nomad Tanzania, Ltd.

June 2005 – January 2009

Research project: Assessment of the Diversity and Conservation Status of Primates in the Coastal Forests of Kenya.

Primate diversity, distribution, taxonomy and the conservation status assessment of the Eastern Arc Mountains and the Kenya Coastal Forests. Financial support by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. In cooperation with Dr T.M. Butynski.

September 2005 – February 2007

Research project: Primate Monitoring Program, Ol Pejeta Conservancy, Kenya.

Assessment of the abundance, distribution and conservation of four species of primate on a private wildlife conservancy in Laikipia, Kenya.

July 2005 – December 2006

Assistant Ecologist CEPF Technical Advisor (Dr T. M. Butynski)

Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forest of Tanzania and Kenya Biodiversity Hotspot. Funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund.

January 2003 - 2004

Research project: Home Range Use, Activity Budget, and the Consumption of Food Items Provided by Humans of the Olive Baboon (*Papio anubis*) at Marula Estate, Kenya.

September 2002 – 2003

Nature tour guide SNP, The Netherlands

Borneo, Malaysia, part time.

November 2000 – January 2002

Assistant Head Animal Care, Stichting AAP, The Netherlands

Nutritional issues, zoonosis, volunteer management, and other animal care matters.

January 2000 - Augustus 2000

Study trip tour South-East Asia

Travelled around South-East Asia for 6 months to visit conservation projects, research projects, and national parks, and to observe primates in the region.

October 1997 - December 1997

Editor GBTV (Dutch television producer) for "Kids for Animals" and other popular animal programs.

January 1996 - July 1996

Final assignment: Feasibility Study of the Introduction of the Eurasian Lynx (*Lynx lynx*) on "de Veluwe", the Netherlands, by using the Stochastic Simulation Program VORTEX.

Main objective was to assess which scenario(s) were most likely to result in a viable population lynx.

February 1994 - July 1994

Third year practical training: Gibbon Rehabilitation Centre, Phuket, Thailand.

Started a new phase to optimize the socialisation period of captive juvenile gibbons. Carried out ethological research, managed the 'release' island, took care of the animals, trained volunteers, and wrote operation procedures for the continuation of the phase.

September 1991- July 1992

Researcher (practical training) at Bioclear, The Netherlands.

Research at an environmental-biotechnology company. Subject: 'Biodegradation of several xenobiotics'. This research covered two subjects: 1. Relation between different parameters by biodegradation of para-cymeen, 2. Biodegradation of mineral oil in mineral oil polluted soil.

List of publications and reports available at:

<http://www.wildsolutions.nl/publications/>

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Yvonne_De_Jong

Professional Societies, Institutes and Partnerships

- Mpala Research Centre (collaborator)
- National Museums of Kenya (collaborator)
- Institute of Primate Research, Kenya (collaborator)
- Nocturnal Primate Research Group, Oxford Brooks University (member)
- National Primate Task Force, Kenya Wildlife Service (member)
- IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group (member)
- IUCN/SSC Antelope Specialist Group (member)
- IUCN/SSC Wild Pig Specialist Group (member)
- IUCN/SSC Afrotheria Specialist Group (member)
- International Primatological Society (member)

Updated: July 2026