HEAD OF AGRIBUSINESS – RE-ADVERTISEMENT

The Organization:
Ol Pejeta Conservancy (“Ol Pejeta”) is the largest black rhino sanctuary in East and Central Africa, and home to the world’s last two northern white rhinos. It is the only place in Kenya to see chimpanzees, in a sanctuary established to rehabilitate animals rescued from the black market. It has some of the highest predator densities in Kenya, and still manages a very successful livestock programme. Ol Pejeta also seeks to support the people living around its borders, to ensure wildlife conservation translates to better education, healthcare and infrastructure for the next generation of wildlife guardians.

We are seeking a high calibre, self-motivated and dedicated applicant to fill the position of HEAD OF AGRIBUSINESS.

Role summary
Position: Head of Agribusiness
Type: Permanent & pensionable
Reports to: Chief Commercial Officer
Period: Permanent
Location: Nanyuki, Kenya.
Closing Date: Friday, 20th May 2022

As a senior manager in the organization, the Head of Agribusiness will be responsible for the grazing planning and management to maximize soil quality and grass productivity throughout the conservancy in a holistic manner that supports and enhances biodiversity, the management of the Livestock and Agriculture department including sales and marketing, abattoir and embryo lab operations, maintaining the Ol Pejeta Boran stud and commercial beef herd to the highest standards possible. He/She will also be responsible for Ol Pejeta fodder and crop production. Planning and implementing infrastructural improvement related to the efficient and profitable management of livestock and agriculture while leading a large workforce of approximately 150 employees.

The role holder will be responsible for:
- Acting in support of the OPC senior management team in support of Board agreed strategies and plans for OPC
- Develop policies to support increased productivity through rangeland improvement and herd size, through rangeland management and intensive grazing pastures outside the Conservancy area.
- Achieve predation and mortality reduction through effective disease and risk control protocols worked in support of the integrated system of livestock and wildlife on Ol Pejeta
- Working with relevant departments, sales and marketing of livestock and agricultural produce to improve profitability and grow the Ol Pejeta beef brand.
- Develop, implement and control agreed annual budgets inclusive of capital expenditure in the Livestock and Agriculture department
- Ensure all appropriate records are maintained using relevant software relating to production, sales incomes and expenditures. In particular oversee the implementation and use of CattleMax and micro chipping to streamline productivity in the livestock section for both stud and commercial herd
- Complete and operationalize the new Sirima slaughterhouse with the view of running a world class facility built to the highest animal, human and environmental standards
- Ensure that the Ol Pejeta Boran stud (300 breeding cows, bulls and followers) is managed effectively to maintain the highest standard of quality
- Liaise with the Ecological Monitoring Unit (EMU) and other relevant departments in the planning and management of rangeland improvement measures to help the department reach its goal of being
carbon neutral by 2030 while scientifically monitoring and evaluating the ecological outcomes of management interventions

- Support the Ol Pejeta community outreach program where necessary particularly with regard to planned measures to assist in the improvement and marketing of pastoralist and neighboring stock.
- Work closely with the community development department to support the development of the Mutara Conservancy for use by local communities to run their own breeding herds. Assist communities with infrastructure and improved genetics to provide OPC with steers for fattening and sale as prime Ol Pejeta beef utilizing our existing brand and favorable market prices.
- Work closely with the LFA, Government and various other stakeholders to come up with robust livestock practices on neighboring ranches that are market driven using Ol Pejeta as the central marketing and slaughter point for Laikipia beef.
- Represent the company in local and international meetings, livestock shows and exhibitions to market the Ol Pejeta Boran herd.
- Coordinate the planting, growing and fertilizing of Ol Pejeta’s current Rhodes Hay fields and any other fodder that OPC may develop in future. Coordinate the harvesting and storing as well as feeding and sale of Ol Pejeta hay in line with annual requirements.
- In particular place particular emphasis on the planning and implementation of the pasture and conservation improvement plans in the Sirima area to increase productivity per acre as well as creating a sustainable mixed livestock and endangered species Boma.
- Work with fostering and building relationships between other third parties that strengthen the Ol Pejeta beef brand.
- Coordinate and actively engage in the annual farming techniques and crop choices in Loidien wheat area with Lengetia Limited and any other Agribusiness partners to ensure best practice for soil and production quality, while maximizing revenues from the partnerships.
- Performing any other duties that may be delegated from time to time.

Person specifications
Education, language & qualifications

- Minimum Bsc. degree in Agri-business and/or 5 years’ experience in a similar leadership position.
- Excellent verbal and written communication with fluency in English, and verbal Swahili.
- Willingness to live on Ol Pejeta.

APPLICATION PROCESS
Applications, consisting of covering letter explaining why you feel you should be considered for this post, a full CV and contact details for three referees should be sent to jobs@olpejetaconservancy.org. Please note, only applications that total no more than five pages in length for the CV and cover letter together will be considered.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 20th May 2022.

Regrettably, due to limited resources and the high number of applications we receive, we are only able to contact short-listed candidates. If you do not hear from us within four weeks of the closing date, please assume that you have not been successful on this occasion.

THE OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY WELCOMES APPLICATIONS FROM ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY & PROMOTES DIVERSITY.