



WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE (WRTI)

The WRTI, established under Section 50 of the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act, 2013 and operationalized through Gazette Notice No. 4862 on 17 July 2020 is mandated to conduct and coordinate wildlife research and academic training in the country to enhance planning and decision making in wildlife conservation and management. The Executive Order No.1 of 2018 (May, 2020 revised) places the Institute as a State corporation under the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife. Section 52 of the WCMA 2013 provides for the functions of WRTI as follows:-

- a. Collect and analyze wildlife data and information to support planning and decision making by different stakeholders, relating to:
 - i. inventory and status of wildlife resources countrywide,
 - ii. trends in wildlife conservation and management approaches and practices,
 - iii. processes or activities likely to impact on sustainable wildlife conservation and management, and
 - iv. Wildlife statistics.
- b. Undertake research through remote sensing and geographic information system to enhance wildlife conservation and management;
- c. Undertake wildlife disease surveillance and control;
- d. Determine, in consultation with the Service and the relevant lead agencies, the carrying capacities of the various wildlife conservation areas and their conservation needs and priorities;
- e. Assess information, that is the basis of ecosystem-based management plans for all wildlife conservation areas;
- f. Undertake wildlife research and related emerging areas;
- g. Provide training and capacity development programmes, courses in wildlife conservation and management and related disciplines and award diplomas and certificates;
- h. Establish with approval of the Cabinet Secretary, such campuses or centers for training and capacity development as are necessary and in the furtherance of wildlife research and training;
- i. Enter into association with other institutions of learning, within or outside Kenya, as the Institute may consider necessary or appropriate and in furtherance of wildlife research and training;
- j. Give information on early warning, disaster management, impacts and mitigation and adaptive strategies to climate change in wildlife conservation areas;
- k. Organize symposia, conferences, workshops and other meetings to promote the exchange of views on issues relating to wildlife research and training; and
- l. Perform any other functions that are ancillary to the object and purpose for which the Institute is established.

Section 59 (1) of the Act further grants the Institute the function to issue research permits.