**Gabriela Fleury**  fleurygs@gmail.com

profile:

Accomplished researcher focusing on holistic Eastern and Southern Africa carnivore conservation. Interested in landscape connectivity, human-wildlife interactions, intersectional conservation and the social landscape. International experience working in South Africa, Kenya, and Namibia for over five years. Domestic and international experience has cultivated leadership abilities, organizational skills, language skills, and an ability to adapt to new surroundings. Experience in a running research program while teaching others in a remote wilderness setting.

Education:

**Percy FitzPatrick Institute, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa** 2015–2016

Master of Science in Conservation Biology, funded Rotary International Global Grants Program

**Focus:** *Land-cover change, intersectional and community-based conservation*

**Thesis:** *Environmental change in Riemvasmaak, Northern Cape, South Africa: twenty years after resettlement*

**James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, US** 2010–2014

Bachelor of Science in Geographic Science; concentration in Environmental Conservation and Sustainability

**Focus:** *Human dimensions of carnivore conservation*

**Thesis:** *Lion-livestock conflict mitigation in the Amboseli region of Kenya*

academic publications:

**Fleury G.,** Hughes C. (2021) “Operation Ferdinand: an image-based educational video game for carnivore conservation.” Carnivore Damage Prevention News (CDPNews) *(accepted for publication, to be published in early 2021)*

Harris N, Wilkinson C, **Fleury G,** Nhleko ZN (2021). Reimagining human-wildlife “conflict” through the lens of responsibility, equity, justice, and inclusion (REJI) *(in press).*

**Fleury G.,** Hoffman M.T., Todd S. (2020) “Land reform and its impact on the arid South African environment: Riemvasmaak as a case study*.*” African Journal of Range and Forage Science. [[link](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.2989/10220119.2020.1783700)]

research grants and honors:

Forbes 30 Under 30 in Science [[link](https://www.forbes.com/profile/gabi-fleury/?list=30under30-science&sh=22c68aba20b9)] 2021

Fulbright Study/Research Grant to Botswana \*, Total funding: $25,000 2020-2021

\**postponed due to COVID-19.*

Rufford Small Grant, Rufford Foundation, Total funding: $7,000 2018

Young Explorer Conservation Grant Finalist, National Geographic Society 2017

Rotary International Global Grant Scholar to South Africa, Total funding: $30,000 2015–2016

Outstanding Poster Presentation, Arid Zone Ecology Forum, South Africa 2016

Valedictorian of JMU Department of Integrated Science and Technology 2014

Outstanding Student in Geography Award, James Madison University 2014

Phi Beta Kappa, James Madison University 2014

Professional ExperiencE:

**Rainforest Trust,** Warrenton, VA, US Oct. 2018 – Present

*Conservation Officer*

**Program Budget Management:** $65,000

**Skills:** Management of protected area projects within Southern Africa and Brazil,organizational capacity-building with local, on-the-ground organizations worldwide,grants and program management, questionnaire design, spatial analysis (ArcGIS Pro, ArcMap, QGIS, Global Forest Watch), FileMaker Pro database development, writing for peer review, interaction with corporate sponsors, donors, nongovernmental and quasi-governmental bodies and rangers.

**Cheetah Conservation Fund,** Otjiwarongo, NAMIBIA June 2017 – June 2018

*Human-Wildlife Conflict Research Manager*

**Skills:** Human-wildlife conflict research team leadership, writing for peer review, landscape-level planning, problem-solving, experimental design, descriptive and inferential statistical analysis (e.g. R), spatial analysis (ArcMap/QGIS), community-based conservation, questionnaire design and data collection, conflict resolution, staff and student supervision, interaction with public and governmental bodies, grant-writing, departmental management (Ecology).

**Bright Frog Game Studios [**[link](https://fleurygs3.wixsite.com/brightfrog/projects)**]** Lynchburg, VA, USApr. 2016 – Present

*Co-Founder of Game Studios and Project Lead for Human-Wildlife Conflict Prevention Video Game*

**Skills:** Innovative thought, experimental design, writing for peer-review, team supervision, working with interdisciplinary partners, literature review, website development, social media project promotion, video editing, fundraising.

**Big Life Foundation,** Amboseli, KENYA/Lynchburg, VA, USOct. 2016 – May 2017

*Predator Compensation Fund Research Associate and Intern Supervisor*

**Skills:** GPS navigation, manual driving, basic field mechanics, tracking and identification of large East African mammals, data collection and descriptive analyses, intern supervision.

**Action for Cheetahs in Kenya**, Nairobi, KENYA/Lynchburg, VA, US Apr. 2016 – Jan. 2017

*Development Associate*

**Skills:** Independent work, community-based conservation, grant-writing, organization of grant writing workshops, fundraising, student mentorship.

**Cape Leopard Trust**, Northern Cape, SOUTH AFRICA Mar. 2016 – Apr. 2016

*Research Assistant, Predator Ecology and Coexistence Experiment*

**Opera on the James,** Lynchburg, VA, US Sep. 2014 – Dec. 2014

*Development and Marketing Internship*

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife,** Chatham, MA, US Jun. 2014 – Sep.2014

*Resident Interpretive Internship, Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge*

Invited research Presentations and panels:

“GIS in Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation.” 2021

Presentation and Panel for ESRI’s Women in GIS webinar

“Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in Southern Africa”. 2021

Panel event (virtual), Rutgers University Wildlife Society.

“Lions! At the Disco, Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in Southern Africa.” 2020

Presentation (virtual), Humboldt State University, Conservation Unlimited. [[link](shorturl.at/ptCJW)]

Environmental Education and Intersectional Conservation Panel. 2020

International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence.

Oxford University, Oxford, England. \**postponed due to COVID-19.*

“Fellows and Guardians Programs at Rainforest Trust.” 2020

Presentation at the 2020 Integrated Conservation Conference, Athens, Georgia.

“Fellows and Guardians Programs at Rainforest Trust.” 2020

Poster presentation, Capacity Building for Conservation Global Conference, London, England.

“Environmental change in Riemvasmaak, Northern Cape, South Africa.” 2018

Presentation at the Pathways Africa 2018 Conference, Windhoek, Namibia.

Invited public science talks:

“All about Cheetahs”, Podcast Recording, @JusttheZooofUS [[link](https://anchor.fm/justthezooofus/episodes/84-Cheetahs-w-Gabi-Fleury-eq6rml)] 2021

“Bushmeat Poaching in Eastern and Southern Africa”. Podcast Recording, 2021

Into the Wild Podcast, @IntoTheWildPod [[link]](https://chaserspodcast.libsyn.com/episode-18-a-conservation-biologist)

“A Conservation Biologist”, Podcast Recording, Chasers Podcast [[link](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/a-conservation-biologist/id1415591951?i=1000511238115)] 2021

Podcast Recording, Assigned Scientist at Bachelor’s, @ASAB pod 2021

Student Mentorship:

**Period: Name: Level: Outcomes:**

2018-Present Jennifer Doong BSc Completed independent giraffe research project

2019-Present Abigail Thiemkey BSc Graduated BSc Zoology, MSU

Employed USDA, human-wildlife conflict

2018 Tim Hofman MSc Graduated MSc Conservation Biology,

University of Göttingen

Employed at Cheetah Conservation Fund.

2017-2018 Teddy Chikwane BSc Graduated Conservation Science, National

University of Science and Technology, Namibia

Employed as data analyst with Thumeza

2017-2018 Usu Kazondunge BSc Graduated Conservation Science, National

University of Science and Technology, Namibia

2017-2018 Rosalia Angula BSc Graduated Conservation Science, National

University of Science and Technology, Namibia

Service & Leadership:

**Chair,** Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, Rainforest Trust Aug. 2020 – Present

* Lead a seven-person team to spearhead inter-and-intraorganizational activities to improve Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Rainforest Trust

**Organizing Committee Member,** Black Mammalogists Week July 2020 – Present

* Coordinated international virtual panels for Black Mammalogists Week in collaboration with Amy Poeler’s Smart Girls and the National Geographic Society
* Co-leading fundraising efforts and created promotional videos for the Black Mammalogists Week’ BIPOC Student Scholarship, raising over $21,000 for the scholarship endowment.

**Conservation SciencePresenter,** “Skype a Scientist” School OutreachApr. 2019 – Present

* Regularly do outreach presentations about carnivore conservation to elementary schools, focusing on science communication with underrepresented students in science.

**Founder** of “Breaking Bio”, Interview Series [[link](shorturl.at/fINQ5)] Sep. 2019 – Present

* Founded and implemented a Youtube channel interview series focused on promoting the work of underrepresented scientists in STEM.

**Presenter,** applications of SMART monitoring software and QGIS in Nepal’s Conservation Strategies. Presentation at Taragaon Museum, Kathmandu, Nepal. May 2019

* Taught twenty-seven Nepalese early-career conservationists how to use SMART conservation software and basic mapping skills in QGIS.

**Presenter**,Pathways Africa Conference*,* Windhoek, Namibia Jan. 2018

* Interactive presentation of different carnivore-livestock conflict prevention techniques, collaborating with representatives from sixteen African countries.

Outreach:

Human-Wildlife Interactions Presentation/Panel, Rutgers Wildlife Society Chapter 2021

Black & LGBTQ+ in STEM Mentorship Panel, Howard University 2021

Michigan State University Mentorship Panel, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife 2021

Human-Wildlife Interactions Presentation, James Madison University 2021

Video Game Design for Conservation, Natural History Society of Maryland 2021

Diversity in Conservation Presentation [[link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bmuB2jTeOHbCO-wTSvwx-Vvk4YgWogDP/view)] 2020

Inter-organizational meeting including conservation representatives from WWF, WCS, FFI, Nature Conservancy, Conservation International, and Rainforest Trust

Media Coverage:

Forbes 30 Under 30 for 2021, James Madison University 2021

Forbes 30 Under 30 for 2021, Rainforest Trust [[link](https://www.rainforesttrust.org/gabi-fleury-forbes/)] 2021

Forbes 30 Under 30 for 2021, WDVM TV [[link](https://www.localdvm.com/news/virginia/virginia-woman-lands-spot-on-forbes-30-under-30-list/)] 2021

Forbes 30 Under 30 for 2021, Fauquier Times [[link](https://www.fauquier.com/lifestyles/warrenton-resident-earns-prestigious-recognition/article_aa0e7078-566b-11eb-a32a-5f6955bb7e49.html?fbclid=IwAR1zIYpJAgL-Uqgutrz0ZUPr9JVtIxr6wLmKLefUGe_Qp2qFnrD4qX2kP2g)] 2021

Forbes 30 Under 30 for 2021, Warrenton Lifestyles Magazine 2021

Conservation Highlight: 500 Queer Scientists [[link](https://thereader.500queerscientists.com/gabi-fleury/)] 2021

Women and GIS:  Mapping their Stories, Volume 3. ESRI Press. 2021

Conflict Exploration: European Wolves, Interview by Exploring Conservation Conflicts 2019

as a Human Dimensions of Wildlife Practitioner [[link](https://medium.com/@ConservConflict)]

“Why Climate Change is Rotary’s Business” Interview by Rotary International [[link](https://www.rotary.org/en/climate-change-rotary-scholars-put-expertise-work)] 2019

Notes from The Field: Protecting the Rainforest [[link](https://luminaid.com/blogs/notes-from-the-field/protecting-the-rainforest-with-luminaid-lights)] 2019

Human-Carnivore Interactions in Namibia, Cheetah Conservation Fund [[link](https://cheetah.org/ccf-blog/conservation/e-shepherd-collar-update-kavango-west/)] 2018

E-Shepherd Collar Deployment in Namibia, Cheetah Conservation Fund [[link](https://cheetah.org/ccf-blog/conservation/deploying-e-shepherd-collars-and-foxlights-in-otjituuo-conservancy/)] 2018

Rotary International Grant to South Africa, James Madison University [[link](https://www.jmu.edu/news/2014/08/14-gabriela-fleury-rotary-scholarship.shtml)] 2014

Lion and Livestock Conflict Mitigation, James Madison University [[link](https://www.jmu.edu/news/2013/12/24-gabriela-fleury-research.shtml)] 2013

Recent Training:

*Conservation and Protected Areas Management in Africa* Jan. 2021

**École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne/IUCN**

*Conservation Essentials: Vital Skills for Managing Conservation Projects* Nov. 2020

**University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Select skills:

**Software:** Microsoft Windows and Mac OS X environments, Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook)**,** R, Geographic Information Systems (ArcMap, ArcGIS Pro, QGIS), FileMaker Pro, MARXAN, Python.

**Field:** Community based conservation, manual and automatic driving license, basic field mechanics, bush camp skills (camp stove cooking, safety protocols), GPS navigation, orientating and map-reading, use of in-field data collection apps (e.g. CyberTracker, SMART tools)**,** rifle (.270) and shotgun handling (20 and 12 gauge), foot patrols, vegetation structure surveys, transect surveys, camera trapping, game counts, large scale population surveys, hair, scat, bone and track identification for southern African mammals, behavioral observation, large mammal, raptor, and non-venomous snake handling and restraint, sociological surveys, organizing, administering and evaluating training workshops, questionnaire and survey design.

**Other:** Management (up to departmental level), supervision, coordination and mentorship of junior staff, volunteers, interns and students (up to Masters level), strategic decision-making, experimental design, conflict resolution, spatial and statistical data analysis, interdisciplinary collaboration, writing for peer review, grant-writing and fundraising, leadership of grant and project proposal writing and conflict resolution workshops, working with diverse interest groups, engagement with private donors and the media, writing and presenting scientific information for a diverse audience.

**Languages:** Afrikaans (conversational), Setswana (conversational), Portuguese (intermediate), English (fluent)