

Dear Sir/Madam

This month, Tanzania has been at the centre of attention with our Marine team studying the recent influx in numbers of sharpnose puffer fish; back on dry land, the Savannah team has been walking with elephants in the Kilombero Valley. Meanwhile, in Madagascar, our research teams have been exploring uncharted forests and making some interesting reptilian discoveries. We also have a number of overseas job opportunities available for those of you looking to get more involved with one of Frontier's conservation research programmes and find out how to order your free 2010 desk calendar.

research achievements

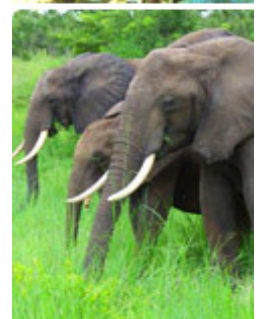
Sharpnose Puffer Fish on Tanzania Marine

Over the past few weeks our marine researchers in Tanzania have been studying an explosion in numbers of sharpnose puffer fish. Usually occurring in much fewer numbers, the population boom is part of a worldwide phenomenon which is poorly understood but could be related to a "locust-style" boom and bust population cycle. Puffer fish are so called because of their ability to inflate themselves to twice their original size through ingestion of air or water, but that's not their only defence – puffers are considered to be the world's second most poisonous vertebrate after Colombia's golden poison toad. [visit our tanzania marine conservation & diving project](#)▲



Elephant Tracking on Tanzania Savannah

It's not just the marine researchers who have been getting up close and personal with Tanzania's more exciting species – the savannah team have been walking with elephants. While carrying out large mammal surveys on foot, looking for tracks and signs of the 30+ species of large mammal which inhabit the Kilombero Valley, our research team came face to face with a herd of elephant. With experienced game guards at hand there was no danger, just an exhilarating experience for all involved. The surveys are part of an ongoing program to protect an important wildlife corridor in southern Tanzania. [visit our tanzania african wildlife conservation adventure project](#)▲



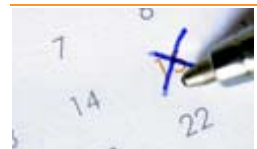
Reptilian Discoveries in Madagascar

In the previously unsurveyed forests of Northern Madagascar, our researchers have discovered some fascinating snakes, including three individuals of the Madagascar burrowing snake – doubling the number of individuals ever seen previously. It's the first time this species have been found outside of rainforest habitat and one of the snakes was also the longest specimen ever observed. The team also found the first juveniles of little-known snake species, *Liopholidophis dimorpha*. Amazingly the two individuals that our teams found have also doubled the number of known specimens for this species! [visit our madagascar wildlife conservation adventure project](#)▲



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research & job opportunities

We are currently recruiting for the following positions within our overseas research sites:
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- [Assistant Research Officer](#)

Cambodia Forest Research Programme

- [Assistant Research Officer](#)

Costa Rica Research Programme

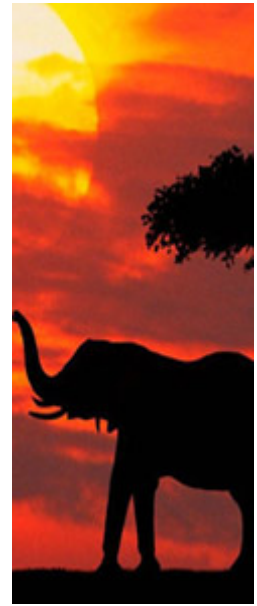
- [Logistics Manager](#)

Fiji Marine Research Programme

- [Dive Officer](#)

Madagascar Research Programme

- [Dive Officer](#)
- [Assistant Country Coordinator](#)



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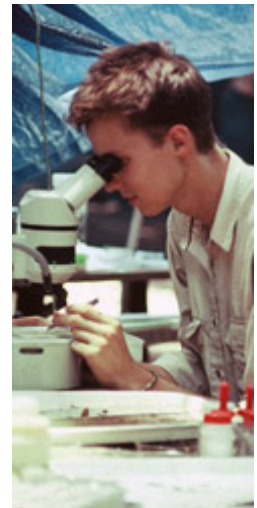
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We hope you have enjoyed catching up with all our latest news. More detailed information on our recent achievements can be found in our [Science Newsletter](#) and our [Community Development and Teaching Newsletter](#).

All the best

The Frontier Team

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