

POSITION VACANCY

Field Scientist

Malapascua Island, Philippines



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ORGANISATION OVERVIEW

People and the Sea is a French and Filipino registered charity. We are a community-driven marine conservation organisation operating in Malapascua, Philippines. Our objective is to support local communities in identifying innovative ways to protect their marine environment and have a positive economic impact.

We are recruiting a new Field Scientist to take the lead role in the planning and delivery of our Marine Survey Training Programme (MSTP) to expedition volunteers. Reporting to the Lead Science Officer, this role involves the scheduling and implementation of science training/data collection dives, teaching and mentoring volunteers as they work to meet expedition targets, and overseeing and verifying the data collecting and data entry process.

SUMMARY JOB DESCRIPTION

The main responsibilities of the FS are to plan for and coordinate the participation of all volunteers in People and the Sea's MSTP. Working closely with the others members of the on-site science team, the position demands close interaction with the expedition volunteers as they progress towards the completion of the science training programme.

More specifically the daily duties of the role include the preparation and delivery of lectures, the planning and management of training and data collection dives, conducting 'study sessions' with volunteers, administration of the testing process and overseeing the data collection and entry process. The Field Scientist has responsibility for the collection and data-entry of all data sets used to support the research and conservation objectives of People and the Sea.

The FS is under the management and guidance of the Lead Science Officer, and will be directly contributing to the fulfilment of the conservation goals of the project.

The Field Scientist will also be expected to contribute positively to the running of the site and also assist in the development and implementation of community based initiatives.

Position Title: Field Scientist

Location: Malapascua Island, Cebu, Philippines

Contract duration: minimum 12 months (with a 3-month probationary period)

Start date: As soon as possible.

Remuneration/Benefits: See relevant section below

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you wish to apply for this vacancy please send your CV and a cover letter to: jobs@peopleandthesea.org. Please state 'Application: Field Scientist' in the e-mail subject line. Please indicate the following in your covering letter:

- Earliest possible start date
- What particularly interests you about this job opening.
- How your personal/professional experience meets the requirements detailed in this posting.

Application Closing Date: Ongoing

PLEASE NOTE: Applications will be reviewed upon receipt and the interview process may begin with short-listed candidates before the application deadline.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Deliver volunteer science training programme:**
 - Ensure the development and implementation of the expedition volunteer training programme.
 - Prepare, update and present science lectures for volunteers.
 - Communicate survey objectives and preliminary results to visiting volunteers
 - Work closely with volunteers in ensuring they meet their training objectives.
 - Develop innovative teaching methods to ensure volunteers achieve science training goals.
 - Ensure the validity and quality of the data collected.
 - Oversee data recording.
- **Research methodologies:**
 - Keep up-to-date with scientific and research developments in marine conservation.
 - Adapt and develop research methodologies to suit local environment.
- **Diving Activities:**
 - Schedule and lead field research and volunteer's science training and data collection dives.
 - Ensure the dive operations are run in accordance to the People and the Sea Scuba Diving Policy.
 - Perform daily inventory of scientific equipment.
 - Oversee the maintenance and inventory of all scientific diving equipment
- **Reporting/Administrative Tasks:**
 - Write and communicate research reports.
 - Summarise the progression of projects and efforts realised.
 - Produce expedition research summaries to deliver to all departing volunteers.
 - Where necessary, present research activities/results to relevant stakeholders.
- **Coordination of site duties shared with all staff on site:**
 - Ensure that People and the Sea site rules are respected and adhered to by everyone on the site
 - Support the People and the Sea team on site with the day-to-day running of the project
 - Assist in the development of People and the Sea's ongoing community programmes.
 - Contribute to the development of People and the Sea's social media community (e.g. FB posts, blogs)
- **Others:**
 - Represents People and the Sea's interests at all times.
 - Maintains strong relationships with all stakeholders - local government, people's associations, boat operators, local businesses, school, etc

REQUIREMENTS

Qualifications/Skills Required

- Qualified diver (Divemaster level or above preferred, but training can be considered as part of remuneration package)
- Graduate in Marine Science, Biology or Ecology (or related field)
- Excellent oral and written English.
- Experience of field research on coral reefs and related habitats and species
- Teaching experience
- Out-standing interpersonal and motivational skills, and proven experience of working effectively as part of a dynamic team.
- High level of proficiency using Microsoft Office software (e.g. Word, Excel, Powerpoint)
- Hard working and dedicated, driven by a desire to be part of making a positive change.
- Good physical condition.

Qualification/Skill Desired

- Spoken and written French.
- Understanding and experience of living and working in a developing country (ideally Philippines)
- Experience in database management.
- Experience in use GIS software
- Statistical analysis.

Remuneration & Benefits

Remuneration:

- 15-20,000 PHP (in cash, each month (dependent on experience)
- All food provided on site (except on days off)
- Full training in all our science protocols and survey procedures
- Dive training up to the level of PADI Divemaster (where required)

Other Benefits

- Reef Check Eco-Diver certification.
- Opportunities to get involved with ongoing research initiatives.
- Kickstart a career in marine conservation.
- Valuable operational and team management experience.
- The opportunity to contribute to real conservation goals.
- Work alongside a local community, helping them to realise the goal of sustainable resource management.