

This project is supported by the European Union's INTERREG VA Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

MarPAMM: Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring

BirdWatch Ireland Recruitment

(Positions subject to final confirmation of funding).

Breeding seabird fieldworker for 5 months (one position).

Nocturnal seabird(storm-petrel) fieldworker for 5 weeks (one position).

Background

Over the next four years, ***the Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring (MarPAMM)*** project will develop models and management plans for protected habitats and species across the regional seas of Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland. The project brings together the knowledge and expertise of 8 key organisations - the Agri-Food & Biosciences Institute (AFBI) (the lead partner), Marine Scotland Science (MSS), the Marine Institute (MI), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), BirdWatch Ireland (BWI), the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS), Ulster University (UU) and University College Cork (UCC).

Four models for seabird, benthic species, marine mammals and coastal habitats will be developed and will feed into the preparation of six Marine Protected Area (MPA) management plans - two for Scotland (Argyll/Outer Hebrides), one for Northern Ireland (Murlough SAC) and three cross/adjacent border areas (Co. Down – Co. Louth, North Coast Ireland – North Channel and Carlingford Lough SPAs).

Seven work packages deliver the full range of outputs. These posts relate to Work Package 2, Birds Monitoring and Modelling, which aims to collect data on marine bird population sizes and distributions, to feed into the production of a bird model to provide information on how protected marine bird species or populations may be impacted by key pressures.

BirdWatch Ireland are seeking one fieldworker for five months (April -August 2018) for breeding seabird data collection and one fieldworker for 5 weeks (July 2018) to assist with collecting data on storm-petrels and shearwaters.

The post-holders will work directly to the BirdWatch Ireland full time MarPAMM Project Manager (PM).

Duties include:-

1. Assist with field-based data collection of breeding seabirds for key species and sites, using standard methodology for timing, count units etc. set out in the Seabird Monitoring Handbook and more recent 'Seabirds Count' guidelines.
2. The breeding seabird fieldworker will assist with counts of Black Guillemot, Razorbill, Guillemot, Kittiwake, Puffin, Fulmar, Shag, Cormorant, terns and gulls, in groups/colonies along coastal stretches, cliffs and offshore islands.
3. The nocturnal seabird fieldworker will assist the Project Manager with counts of European Storm-petrel in July, using standard playback methods.

4. Assist with the production of relevant reports on the seabird census.
5. Assist with the dissemination of project findings.

Sites will be determined by the Project Manager in consultation with NPWS and the Seabirds Count Coordinator at BirdWatch Ireland HQ. The focus will be on Donegal/Sligo in 2018.

Other general requirements include:-

- Assist the PM with the preparation of Activity and Financial reports to the Lead Partner within required deadlines.
- Work with NPWS to ensure effective delivery of seabird data collection.
- Engage in project communication, e.g. events, leaflets, press & PR, newsletters and website in line with the agreed communications plan and as required by the PM.
- Exchange knowledge and experience with colleagues.
- Other duties necessary to complete the project.

The following skills and attributes are required

Essential

- A degree in a biological/environmental subject, or equivalent experience.
- Experience of breeding seabird surveys following standard methodology.
- Data analysis and report writing.

Desirable

- Understanding of GIS.
- Managing volunteers

Other

- Ability to communicate effectively with a range of audiences.
- Ability to work co-operatively as part of a team and to prioritise and manage own workload.
- Ability to use own initiative to solve problems and work under pressure.

Location and Salary scale

This post will be based in Donegal/Sligo. This is a fixed-term contract with a salary of €20,000 pa. The suitable applicant will be required to provide an average of 35 hours per week. Leave entitlement is 20 days per annum pro rata plus statutory holidays.

A completed application form should be forwarded to Michelle Kavanagh, BirdWatch Ireland, Unit 20 Block D Bullford Business Campus, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow. Applications may also be sent via email to mkavanagh@birdwatchireland.ie indicating the job title in the subject line.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 17:00 on Monday 19th March 2018. Interviews will be held on FRIDAY 23rd MARCH 2018. We will notify applicants for interview by 17:00 Tues 20th March. It is anticipated that interviews will be held in Sligo, but this will be confirmed at notification. The intended start date will be in late March/early April.

We expect you to carry out your job responsibilities in an environmentally aware manner, ensuring as little damage to the environment as possible. Our aim is to ensure all resources are utilised effectively and efficiently. You will be expected to apply 'sound value for money' principles in undertaking purchasing or supply of goods and services and in accordance with the requirements of SEUPB/Interreg.