

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

Long term Fieldworker: SUBJECT TO FINAL CONFIRMATION OF FUNDING

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. This post relates 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 full time fieldworker for one year and nine months (April 2018-December 2020), to assist with the collection, collation and reporting of all seabird field data for WP 2.

The post-holder 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, including coastal areas and offshore islands, in Counties Donegal and Sligo in 2018/19.
2. Assist the Project Manager with other surveys, to include:-

- ESAS boat surveys, to include NW coast islands, Donegal Bay, Carlingford Lough & Dundalk Bay, to identify key areas for breeding and wintering seabirds and waterbirds (divers, grebes and seaduck).

-Aerial surveys of marine waters in Donegal Bay & Belfast Lough.

3. Assist the PM with tagging and tracking of some species (including Shags, Kittiwakes, Herring and black-backed gulls) in 2019 and 2020, to be targeted in the breeding season.
4. Assist with the collation and management of tracking data.
5. Assist with the production of two reports on the seabird census and tracking work undertaken between 2018 and 2020.
6. Attend project partner meetings if required.
7. Assist with the dissemination of project methods and findings.

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

- Undertaking and managing breeding and wintering seabird surveys.
- Experience of GPS tagging and tracking.
- Proficient in GIS.
- Demonstrable knowledge of marine protection mechanisms.
- Data analysis and report writing.

Desirable

- Experience of EU funded projects, preparing financial and progress/results reports and claims
- Procurement of goods and services within set guidelines
- Managing staff and volunteers and supervising contractors.
- Experience of aerial surveys for marine seabirds.

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.

Salary scale

This is a fixed-term contract with a salary of €21,000 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.