



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Marine IBA Analyst

Job description, functions and duties

Closing date for applications: 12.00 (midday) Fri 8th Sept 2023.

Job Title:	Marine IBA Analyst
Division:	Conservation: Species & Land Management
Immediate Line Manager:	Assistant Head, Species and Land Management
Location:	Flexible within Ireland*
Vacancy type:	Fixed Term part time
Contract term:	35 weeks; start date Oct 2023 (TBC)
Hours:	Part-time, 18 hours per week
Salary:	€346/week for 18 hours. (€35,000 FTE)

*The post holder may choose to work from home or may have a base in either our Headquarters in Kilcoole or our regional office in Letterkenny. Please note, where the postholder chooses to work from home, BirdWatch Ireland does not provide a separate home office supplement.

Duties & Responsibilities

The BirdWatch Ireland analyst will work closely with the BirdLife International data analysts who are experienced in delineating and proposing Marine Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (the major subset of Key Biodiversity Areas) for seabirds. The BirdWatch Ireland analyst will support extracting additional data collated from the Fair Seas campaign necessary for the assessment of sites against IBA / KBA criteria. Additionally, the BirdWatch Ireland analyst will support in delineation and proposal of IBA / KBA sites via stakeholder consultation(s).

Qualifications and skills required.

Essential

Significant demonstratable experience in the use of GIS and database management.

Excellent knowledge of Ireland's seabirds and marine ecology and issues relating to their conservation.

Relevant science degree or equivalent experience.

Experience in scientific report writing.

Knowledge of protected area mechanisms.

Project management skills.

Ability to work accurately and to deadlines.

Desirable

Awareness and interest in other groups of marine megafauna, particularly cetaceans.

Sound knowledge of marine resource management, policy and planning legislation.

Ability to work collaboratively with a range of stakeholders.

Experience of conducting workshops.

Key Responsibilities and Accountabilities

Explore data sources with information pertaining to seabird breeding colony location and abundance estimates, seabird distribution at sea from at-sea surveys and animal tracking data, and estimates of seabird range from breeding colonies (foraging range and other key behaviours – e.g. rafting distances at sea from breeding colonies). Examples include, but are not limited to, the UK-Irish breeding seabird censuses, European Seabirds at Sea database, tracking data repositories, such as the BirdLife International Seabird Tracking Database, and both peer-reviewed and unpublished literature.

- Conduct a comprehensive review comparing what seabird data was used to deliver the seabird layer in the Fair Seas campaign report (Fair Seas, June 2022) versus what other relevant seabird data exists to identify important sites in the context of IBAs / KBAs.
- Support identification of a list of all possible collaborators / experts who could facilitate in the review and identification of IBAs / KBAs for seabirds.
- Approach all relevant groups (academic, NGO, commercial, other) that gather seabird information for research or licensing purposes, with a view to seeking access, if possible, to that data.
- Collate, where possible, all relevant seabird data identified from the review and standardise data in a centralised repository for further analyses.
- Support the creation of a GIS database of all spatial information related to the project and generate key summary maps of seabird data.
- Facilitate stakeholder workshops to review boundaries of IBA / KBA sites prior to formal proposal of sites. Refine (i.e. digitize) site boundaries where necessary.
- Support the collation of all relevant metadata to formally propose IBAs / KBAs.
- Support the formal proposal of identified IBAs / KBAs via relevant online databases.
- Support any corrections required to proposed sites before final nomination of IBA / KBA sites to the relevant authorities.
- Support the writing of a succinct report with methodology, data gaps and maps of identified IBAs / KBAs.
- Support the writing of a relevant report where new IBA / KBA site information can inform enhancements to the Special Protection Area (SPA) network in Irish waters.

Other general requirements include:-

- Establish and maintain the systems necessary for operating the Project in the Republic of Ireland and for monitoring and reporting on the activities and finances.

- Work with BirdLife to ensure Project requirements are met.
- Participate in delivery groups and other meetings as required to ensure effective delivery of the project.
- Exchange knowledge and experience with colleagues.

Leave entitlement is 20 days per annum pro rata, plus statutory holidays.

How to apply:

Complete the application form available on the BirdWatch Ireland website. A completed application form should be emailed to recruitment@birdwatchireland.ie, or posted to:

Administration Dept
BirdWatch Ireland
Unit 20, Block D, Bullford Business Campus
Kilcoole
Co Wicklow A63 RW83

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Interviews will take place in the week following the closing date and will mostly be on-line.