

Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

Job Description

Post Title: Fisheries & Conservation Research Officer (enhanced)

Location: IFCA Shoreham Office

Appointment: 18 month fixed-term contract

Grade: Grade 4 (SCP 18-24)

Salary: £24,982 - £28,672 + 10% (excl. allowances)

Responsible to: Conservation and Research Manager,
Senior Research Officer

Main purpose of the role

To undertake day to day operational activities associated with inshore marine fisheries management, with a focus on conservation and research activities as defined in the operational plan.

The post carries the status of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officer with an enhanced role and additional grade to lead on aspects of the Authority's conservation and research activities. The post holder will not be issued with an Inshore Fisheries & Conservation warrant card. The post holder will if required assist IFCO's in conducting their regulatory functions as defined within the MaCAA 2009.

Key tasks and responsibilities

1. Support the conservation and research work done by the Authority as required.
2. 'Enhanced role' tasks and responsibilities: To act as a lead grade 4 IFCO team member in respect to coordinating research activities and liaising with Senior Conservation and Research Department Officers/Managers.
3. Collect and record data of fishing activities and related matters of interest (e.g. pollution levels, environmental status) through carrying out shore patrols, boarding of other vessels and catch inspections as required.

4. Work on the Authority's vessels assisting scientific, enforcement or other work undertaken as required. Support the navigation and/or safe handling of the vessels as required.
5. Support investigations into breaches of regulations, including production of statements and drafting of associated reports. Attend courts to give evidence as required.
6. Apply consistently the principles of Equal Opportunities, as embodied in the Authority's policies and practices, throughout the duties outlined above.
7. Undertake available training opportunities and show a commitment to continuous development, to maximise your potential and ensure the efficient and effective delivery of services.
8. Take an active role in the maintenance of vessels and equipment as required (subject to limitations of knowledge and experience), ensuring that concerns around the operation, safety and legal requirements of such equipment are brought to the attention of the Marine Operations Manager as appropriate.
9. Undertake any other tasks commensurate with the grading of the post

This job description sets out the duties of the post at the time when it was drawn up. Such duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibility entailed. Such variations are a common occurrence and cannot of themselves justify a reconsideration of the grading of the post.

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Person Specification

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	Criteria	Is it essential or desirable		Method of Assessment
		Essential	Desirable	
Key Skills & Abilities	Able to produce basic written reports	✓		
	Good communication and liaison skills	✓		
	General practical marine skills	✓		
	Ability to helm SRIB in coastal waters		✓	
	Able to communicate effectively with the general public in challenging situations	✓		
	Competent user of relevant ICT packages (e.g. ArcGIS/QGIS, Microsoft Office)	✓		
Education & Qualifications	Qualified to helm on SRIB (RYA Powerboat Level 2 or equivalent)		✓	
	First degree in relevant discipline (e.g. Fisheries, Marine Biology, Environmental Science) or equivalent knowledge and experience	✓		
Knowledge	General understanding of fishing and coastal marine issues	✓		
	Understanding of EU, national and local fisheries legislation that apply within District		✓	
	Understanding of inshore fishing methods and industry practices	✓		
	Knowledge of PACE and		✓	

	procedures and codes of conduct pertaining to the implementation of legislation			
	Significant seagoing knowledge e.g. good understanding of navigational matters		✓	
Experience	Implementation and enforcement of relevant legislation (e.g. Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984)		✓	
	Collection and assessment of evidence for prosecution of offenders		✓	
	Professional experience within commercial fishing or aquaculture industry		✓	
	Undertaking practical research in the field of Fisheries, Marine Biology or Environmental Management	✓		
Other	Full driving licence or the ability to meet the travel requirements of the role	✓		
	Ability to respond to urgent mobilisation calls and present at Shoreham Harbour inside 1 hour	✓		
	Physically fit and able to pass ML5/ENG1 medical certificate and to undertake appropriate marine going duties	✓		