

## Announcement

# Volunteer position for the Terrestrial Invertebrates Collection (ICCDRS)

**Application deadline:** Until filling the vacancy

**Starting time:** immediately

**Duration:** Initially for a period of 3 months with the possibility of extending the placement for an additional 3 months upon review.

The Terrestrial Invertebrates Collection Charles Darwin Research Station (ICCDRS) forms part of the 4 Natural History Collections at the Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF). The main role of the collections is to preserve type specimens (those used on the description of a new species). The specimens and the information preserved at the collections are pivotal for research projects contributing to the knowledge of the baseline of biodiversity, working with priority species for conservation in Galapagos and, generating information on ecological interactions, primarily on introduced species.

The ICCDRS houses more than 40,000 specimens and is the greatest repository of terrestrial invertebrates from Galapagos in the world. The ICCDRS data make possible taxonomical studies that lead to the discovery of new species and new records for Galapagos. The specimens at the didactical section are a powerful tool in terms of outreach and environmental education. The historical records of the ICCDRS are basic to know the spatial distribution of species across the time, as a result we can better understand the natural history of the endemic species of terrestrial invertebrates in Galapagos.

Thanks to the support of scientific collaborators from international, national and local institutions, we are currently developing several activities focused on the preservation and cataloguing of ICCDRS specimens. The main goal of these activities is to safeguard the information contained in our specimens, strengthen and update our ICCDRS database

### Opportunity

The Terrestrial Invertebrates Collection is offering the possibility to work with some of the most scientifically valued and unique museum specimens in the world. We are looking for individuals with knowledge in Terrestrial Invertebrates from Galapagos, with interest in the research and conservation of the islands.

This is a great opportunity to have a first-hand experience with the work carried out at the Charles Darwin Foundation on the behalf of the conservation of the Galapagos Islands.

### Required profile

- Applicants should have Galapagos permanent residency
- Applicants should have knowledge, studying or a Bachelor Degree in Biology, Environmental Sciences or closely related fields.
- Applicants should have a strong scientific interest in Terrestrial Invertebrates.

- Applicants should be interested in scientific documents.
- Understanding of general entomology and previous experience working with natural history collections is worth.
- Experience in photography, computer skills in Excel, R, GIS.
- Highly motivated person with excellent interpersonal skills and proficiency in English and Spanish are preferable.
- Ability to work in a multicultural and multilingual team is an advantage.
- Confidence in presentational skills to local or visiting audiences.
- Independently developing research within the framework of the project is encouraged.

### Responsibilities

- Assist in the photo session and digitization of ICCDRS specimens.
- Assist in the preparation of scientific publications and outreach material for local community and visitors.
- Contribute to the preparation of the guide of endemic insects of Galapagos.
- Technical support in the curation activities at the ICCDRS and, if required, assistance in field trips to collect specimens.
- Support in the organization of ICCDRS specimens.
- Maintenance and monitoring of the specific climatic conditions required of the collections.
- Support in the composition and presentation of information to local or visiting audiences.
- Supporting any other activities of the Natural History Collections, in case of being required.

### Terms

The volunteer reports directly to the project coordinator and the project scientist and will comply with the daily working schedule. The successful candidate will be based at the Charles Darwin Foundation Research Station (CDRS) on Santa Cruz Island, Galapagos, Ecuador. A volunteer assignment with CDF does not imply a continuing relationship with the volunteer beyond the expected duration of the assignment.

The CDF will negotiate the entry permits to Galapagos, but will require the cooperation of the volunteer in their country of residence for coordination with the appropriate Ecuadorian embassy that grants the visa. CDF will not process a visa in excess of the expected duration of the assignment.

### How to apply?

For additional information and those interested in this position should send their application form and attachments by e-mail to the following address [vol@fcdarwin.org.ec](mailto:vol@fcdarwin.org.ec).

Please refer to this page for information about other requirements and application instructions: [www.darwinfoundation.org.ec](http://www.darwinfoundation.org.ec)