The Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galápagos Islands

is seeking to hire a

Field Assistant – Vacancy 2 – Ecological Restoration Program

Position title:	Field Assistant
Employment type:	Full-time
Application deadline:	November 30, 2026
Start date:	January 4, 2027
Duration:	1 year, with annual renewal based on performance

Introduction

The Charles Darwin Foundation carries out several terrestrial ecosystem restoration projects focused on restoring ecological resilience. These projects implement various restoration actions, including species reintroductions, invasive species control, and assisted natural regeneration. They also establish biodiversity baselines and monitor various indicators of ecological resilience in several areas of the Galápagos Islands.

The Floreana Ecological Restoration Project was launched more than a decade ago as a collaborative effort among several Galápagos-based institutions to reverse the island's decline and restore its ecological integrity through a holistic, science-based approach. The project focuses on eliminating invasive rodents and feral cats, restoring native habitats, and reintroducing at least a dozen animal species lost from the island, while working closely with the small local community. The aim is to create a resilient, fully integrated, self-sustaining ecosystem that serves as a model for restoration in Galápagos and other island environments.

The project's Field Assistant will be responsible for invasive plant control at designated sites and will assist with seed collection and the production of *Scalesia* and other native plants.

Position objective

As part of the Project to Restore Ecological Resilience on Floreana Island, the Field Assistant will carry out invasive plant control at designated sites and assist with seed collection and the production of *Scalesia* and other native plants.

Activities

The selected candidate will work closely and actively with the project's Principal Investigators and other team members, including researchers, volunteers, students, and the Galápagos National Park (GNP) administration.
The main responsibilities of the position are:

- Assist with greenhouse construction in the island's highlands.
- Control invasive plants
- Assist with identifying seed-producing plants and collecting native species
- Assist with propagating Scalesia and other native plants in the greenhouse
- Plant *Scalesia* and other native species in areas where invasive plants have been controlled.
- Communicate directly with the field activities coordinator each month.

Minimum candidate profile

Qualifications and experience

- Preferably, 1 year of experience in invasive plant control and greenhouse plant cultivation.

Preferred education

- Preferably, a high school diploma

Working conditions

Professionals who are permanent residents of Galápagos are encouraged to apply for this position.

- Contract type**: Annual, with the possibility of renewal based on performance**
- Position type**: Field Assistant**
- Work schedule**: Full-time**
- Job description: Work is primarily carried out in the field and in the greenhouse. Field activities involve physical demands (walking long distances, working in the field for several hours a day, and carrying loads over long distances), intellectual demands (collaborating, planning, organizing, and coordinating), and chemical, ergonomic, and environmental occupational hazards.
- The employee is expected to work 40 hours per week, from 07:45 to 12:30 and from 14:00 to 17:15. This schedule may change depending on project activities, such as fieldwork.
- Work location**: Puerto Velasco Ibarra, Floreana Island, Galápagos, Ecuador.**
- **Salary and benefits will be negotiated according to the candidate's qualifications.**
- Contract duration**: 1 year, with annual renewal based on performance**
- Regulatory compliance: The selected candidate must comply with the Charles Darwin Foundation's internal regulations, biosecurity protocols, and regulations applicable to scientific work in Galápagos, including those of the Galápagos National Park.
- Benefits: Statutory benefits and those established by the Charles Darwin Foundation's internal policies.

Why join the Charles Darwin Foundation

- Be part of a **globally respected, mission-driven organization** dedicated to preserving one of the planet's most iconic ecosystems;
- Help advance vital research and conservation in the Galápagos Islands, with regional and global impact.

Restrictions

Please note that the provincial government of the Galápagos Islands prohibits bringing domestic pets (companion animals) into the Galápagos Islands.

Interested in applying?
Interested candidates should use the following link to submit their application and the required documents: https://forms.gle/P8rmQVF2NoHKcQ8o7

- A cover letter detailing relevant experience (maximum 2 pages).
- An updated CV.
- Contact details for three professional references (names, email addresses, and telephone numbers).

Application deadline: November 30, 2026.

The Charles Darwin Foundation is an equal opportunity employer. *We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.*