

Announcement

The Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands is seeking a Marine Ecologist

Application deadline: October 7th, 2018

Start date: December 1st, 2018

Duration: 12 months

Introduction

The Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) is seeking a marine scientist with experience in sharks to work as a marine ecologist for the Sharks Project in our research station based in Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island. The selected candidate will be an important team member of the project which aims to use scientific knowledge to guide the conservation of this group of threatened species. The project involves studies on the ecology of sharks, the effects of El Niño cycles on their populations, their habitat use, migratory pathways, populations genetics or socio-economic studies.

Objectives of the position

The candidate will work directly with the project's PI and also with other marine projects' staff. The candidate will also develop collaborations with local, national and international institutions and will work closely with the Galapagos National Park and other partners.

The candidate will be responsible of coordinating field work logistics, video and data analysis, taking care of field and lab equipment, and supervise the work of volunteers and interns.

Candidate's profile

- Bachelors in marine biology with a minimum one year work experience of with sharks. Postgraduate studies are an advantage.
- Capacity and experience to coordinate and undertake field work during long periods of time in basic conditions and remote areas.
- Experience in using the software of EventsMeasure and CAL for the calibration and analysis of BRUVs y DOVs videos and knowledge of the Tropical Eastern pacific fish species is an advantage.
- Excellent scientific SCUBA diving skills (minimum of Rescue diver or at least 100 scientific dives). Capacity or training of free-diving is an advantage.
- Capacity and experience to analyse datasets and report writing.
- Fluency in written and oral English and Spanish languages.

- Advanced knowledge of Microsoft Office package (Word, Excel, MS Access, Powerpoint), GIS and statistical software ((R, SPSS, Primer).
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Proactive personality, capable of handling pressure, meet deadlines, multitasking, and integrating into a multidisciplinary team in an isolated environment. Heavy lifting, long days and weekend work may be required.
- This position may include long working hours and weekend work.

Responsibilities

- Actively contribute to the research on the ecology, habitat use, migratory pathways, populations genetics of sharks in the Galapagos Marine Reserve.
- Work with the PI and international collaborators on the development of new scientific methods and experimental design to further develop the project.
- Coordinate and undertake surveys of sharks and pelagic fishes using remote baited cameras (BRUVS) and stereo video surveys (DOVS) using SCUBA.
- Contribute to the video analysis produced by BRUVs and DOVs.
- Actively supervise analysis as well as field work of volunteers, interns and collaborators.
- Undertake and coordinate field work logistics (Supplies, Science and safety gear, etc.) ensuring all safety protocols are followed.
- Ensure the adequate maintenance and servicing of field gear and project's equipment before, during and after field work.
- Undertake and supervise the collection, analysis and storage of biological samples for populations genetic and stable isotope analysis.
- Participate in the updating, management, analysis and interpretation of the project's databases.
- Conduct data analysis and collaborate and/or lead the production of scientific peer-reviewed publications, reports to donors and outreach material
- Help with technical reporting, including experts' advice on criminal fisheries cases and administrative reports.
- Collaborate with the design, elaboration and execution of events part of the education/outreach projects with the local community.
- Support the project's administrative processes as required.
- Actively collaborate with the Galapagos National Park and other strategic partners facilitating their participation in the project when necessary.

Conditions

The investigator will report to the scientists in charge of the projects. The candidate selected will be based at the Charles Darwin Research Station (CDRS) on Santa Cruz Island in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador. The consultancy at the Charles Darwin Foundation does not imply a work relationship beyond the end date of the consultancy contract.



Salary will be set based on the candidate's experience and qualifications, within the salary tables of the CDF. We offer private medical insurance and 30-day paid annual rest. The contract offers basic relocation facilities.

Working hours for CDF's staff are from 7:30 - 12:00 and 13:30 – 17:00. Due to project activities, such as fieldtrips, this schedule may change. Initial contract is for a year, with possibility of extension.

Appropriate visa to work in Ecuador is needed, this process will take place in the candidate's country of residence prior to the trip. The CDF will not process this visa. Additionally, the special law for Galapagos requires a particular migratory permit to enter the province of Galapagos; this permit will be organized by the CDF in Puerto Ayora.

How to apply?

Applicants must send the following documents via e-mail to: (tiburones2018@fcdarwin.org.ec).

- Updated resume.
- Letter of interest, describing their competencies according to the minimum requirements for this position.
- Three professional letters of recommendation, including the names and email addresses of the references.
- Names and email addresses of two references that can give a personal recommendation of the candidate.