

## Announcement

### Volunteer position for the Marine Invertebrate Collection

**Application deadline:** Until filling the vacancy

**Starting time:** As soon as possible

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

The Marine Invertebrates Collection (MCCDRS) forms part of the 4 collections present at the Charles Darwin Research Station (CDRS). The main function of the collection is to preserve type specimens, and the specimens and information that the collection maintains is pivotal for research projects that:

1. Contribute to the knowledge of the baseline of biodiversity,
2. work with priority species for conservation and,
3. generate information on ecological interactions, primarily on introduced species.

The MCCDRS possesses more than 7,000 marine invertebrate specimens and provides an unparalleled record of the biodiversity in the waters of the archipelago. Over the years the collections have been used for taxonomic studies, descriptions of species new to science, new registers for the Galapagos, invasive species studies and many other investigations. All of our collections are preserved in climate-controlled spaces with cool temperatures and low humidity and are monitored regularly for pests and fungi.

#### Opportunity

The marine collection is offering the possibility to work with some of the most scientifically valued and unique species in the world. For this, the collection is looking for individuals with knowledge in marine species taxonomy and an interest in the research and conservation of the islands.

This is an incredible experience to experience first-hand the important scientific work is carried out in the Charles Darwin Foundation for the benefit of the conservation of the Galapagos Islands.

#### Required profile

- Applicants should have a strong interest in Marine Invertebrates.
- Bachelor degree or postgraduate degree in Biology (or closely related field).
- Familiar with marine taxonomy and the use of taxonomic keys with special emphasis on fish taxonomy.
- Previous experience working with invertebrates and natural history collections is desirable.
- Experience in photography, computational skills in R, GIS software and proficiency working with Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop are an advantage.

- 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

- Contribute to the taxonomic analysis of the fish samples present in MCCDRS.
- Contribute to the taxonomic organization of MCCDRS
- Contribute to the data analysis of specimens, including biogeographical analysis.
- Assist on the preparation of scientific publications and outreach material for local community and visitors.
- Technical support on the curation activities at the MCCDRS and, if required, assistance in field trips to collect specimens.
- Maintenance and monitoring of the specific climatic conditions required of the collections.
- Maintenance and update of the MCCDRS database.
- Support in the composition and presentation of information to local or visiting audiences.
- Supporting any other activities of the Natural History Collections, when it is required.

### Terms

The volunteer reports directly to the project coordinator and the project scientist. 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 volunteer is expected to work a minimum of 40 hours per week, from 7:30 - 12:00 and 13:30 – 17:00. Due to project activities, such as fieldtrips, this schedule may change. Vacation and/or additional time away from the MCCDFRS may be requested in advance by the volunteer but will be subject to the approval of the project coordinator.

The CDF will negotiate the entry permits to Galápagos, 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)