



Head Marine Science Officer

Next vacancy: January 2009

ReefDoctor requires one person to oversee and manage our science programme in Ifaty, southwest Madagascar. We look for enthusiastic people that want to get hands-on experience of developing and implementing marine research and management programmes.

This position is a 12 month contract.

The job involves some of the following activities, though this list is not considered exhaustive:

- To act as programme leader/s and manager/s for ReefDoctor's science initiatives in reef health research, marine management, education and socio-economic development
- To help research, define and document ReefDoctor's programme of scientific research and community projects
- To help research, define and document ReefDoctor's data analysis requirements and procedures
- To update and improve survey methodologies documentation as required
- To ensure existing scientific objectives laid down by the company are being carried out to an acceptable standard
- To conduct underwater surveys of coral reef habitats using ReefDoctor's agreed methodologies
- To ensure survey data and results are properly documented and reported to the directors of ReefDoctor in the UK
- To coordinate socio-economic studies and fisheries surveys
- To develop and deliver environmental education programmes to local communities and tourists
- To refine, update and deliver our volunteer education programmes
- To produce regular reports on ReefDoctor's scientific activities and send them to ReefDoctor's UK headquarters
- To work with local Malagasy scientists to further their involvement in ReefDoctor's work
- To liaise with the local community to ensure that development and management initiatives are to their benefit
- To represent ReefDoctor to scientists, government ministries, other NGOs and conservation organisations at meetings and conferences
- To research, write and edit funding proposals



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Applicant Requirements

Outlined below are the requirements personnel need to have to apply for the voluntary Science Officer positions at our Ifaty site in Madagascar.

- Aged over 23
- Masters Degree in a biological science field, preference will be given to those with tropical marine ecology work experience or experience in a relevant field such as community based conservation
- Knowledge of tropical marine survey work (Indo-Pacific coral reef species preferable) and data collection and analysis techniques
- Data analysis skills including using SPSS, PRIMER and Mini-tab
- General computing skills using Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint and Publisher
- PADI Advanced Open Water certification or above with underwater survey experience
- Ability to read and speak French to a moderate / advanced level, ability to write in French preferable
- Experience working in small teams in isolated, tropical environments
- Experience working closely with rural communities in developing countries
- Ability to work in basic conditions with limited facilities and diet
- Ability to work under pressure to deadlines and within limited budgets.
- Adaptable with good practical problem solving abilities
- Driving licence (International)
- Your own full set of dive equipment
- Physically fit with full valid diving medical.
- Financial ability to pay the cost for your international return flight to Madagascar and one domestic flight to the south of Madagascar (to be reimbursed on completion of your contract)
- Financial ability to cover standard travel, dive and medical insurance



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Applicant Receives

- Reimbursement of total cost of International/domestic flights on completing the full term of the contract
- Accommodation and food in Ifaty and Toliara
- Free internal transport
- Diving medical insurance and standard equipment insurance
- Working liability cover
- Salary of £100 per month
- Internet access
- Four weeks paid holiday per 12 months

What you will gain from the work

We hope that by working on our project you will gain experience in research, marine management and conservation work and gain:

- Experience in developing and implementing marine research and management programmes
- Experience of managing a team of researchers and volunteers
- Experience of gathering and analysing data as part of an ongoing programme of research and analysis
- Experience of liaising and working with NGOs, government departments and other institutions to implement conservation and marine management programmes
- Experience working with local communities in a developing country

We encourage initiative and enterprise in the research and conservation work we undertake, and our science staff are given the freedom to follow through ideas and projects with the support of fellow staff and volunteers. We continue to support many previous staff, encouraging them to write up and publish the results of research conducted while working with us.

The job is on a voluntary basis but the applicant will have to sign a standard employment contract on acceptance.

Please send your CV and a brief covering letter to Roderick Stein-Rostaing at staff@reefdoctor.org

Thank You