

VACANCIES FOR MAMMALOGISTS (Sealers x 2) AT MARION ISLAND 2018-2019

Deadline for applications: 20 November 2017

The University of Pretoria's Marion Island Marine Mammal Programme (MIMMP) research project entitled "Marion Island Marine Mammals: Individual Variation and Population Processes in Changing Environments" will have positions vacant for biologists/zoologists with an interest in marine mammals.

POST: Field Assistant: MARION ISLAND MAMMALOGIST (**Sealers**) **TWO POSITIONS**
(APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN MONTHS CONTRACT)

STATIONING CENTRE: MARION ISLAND

APPLICATION: Must initially submit ELECTRONIC COPIES of:
1) a covering letter stating why you are eligible for this post
2) a comprehensive CV,
3) certified copies of qualifications and ID
to Ms Kate du Toit at katedutoit@hotmail.com and cc to the Principal Investigator of this specific project: Prof de Bruyn (pjndebruyn@zoology.up.ac.za).
*Correspondence will be limited to successful candidates only who will need to submit hard copies of their certified qualifications and ID. If you have not been contacted within two months after the closing date of the advertisement, please accept that your application was unsuccessful. The employer reserves the right not to appoint. **Note:** Foreign applicants will be considered if they significantly outcompete South African applicants or for specific purposes related to research within the MIMMP's collaborative network. It is the applicant's responsibility to have foreign qualifications evaluated by the South African Qualification Authority (SAQA). The Marion Island Marine Mammal Programme is committed to fair appointment.*

SALARY: ~ R 180 000 p.a (incl. benefits) depending on qualification level

REQUIREMENTS: BSc (Hons) or higher degree in Biological/Environmental field (preference will be given to applicants with higher qualifications). Computer literate with experience in data management and report writing. Well versed in MS Office (or related) software programmes (e.g. Excel). Basic understanding of population ecology and of statistics (i.e. evidence of at least successfully passed undergraduate courses in these or related subjects). Must be physically fit and strong, mentally strong, able to swim, NOT COLOUR BLIND (partially or fully) or hearing impaired. Appointment to these positions is subject to a rigorous medical examination.

DUTIES: Monitoring and data collection of three seal species (see www.marionseals.com). Activities include: censusing, mark-recapture, satellite device deployment and removal, weighing, sampling, measuring, observation. Undertake fieldwork under very rigorous conditions (cold, wet and windy 95% of the time). Fieldwork will encompass 75% of your time on the island, and you will walk between 4000 and 6000km in gumboots during your time there. The other 25% will be dedicated to office and laboratory work. Meticulous observation, note-taking and record-keeping abilities are important. Be able to manage large electronic datasets. Be able to manage electronics (e.g. satellite relay data loggers) and a storage facility. The incumbent must be comfortable around large animals. Preferably having experience with large mammal work. Experience with animal capture and care, biopsy sampling and tagging will be beneficial. Opportunity for

postgraduate studies upon return from the island under the supervision of the Principal Investigator is possible.

Note: The incumbent will execute duties at an Sub/Antarctic Base and adhere to the health, safety and environmental requirements. The successful applicant will spend a full year (April 2018 to May 2019) at Marion Island. *There is no option to return to South Africa before May 2019.* The ability to work and live with small groups of people is thus essential. Although the base is well-equipped with e-mail, fax and satellite telephone facilities, the applicant has to be self-sufficient and self-motivated. The location may affect both the physical and mental well-being of the incumbent, their family and close relationships. Candidates must be physically fit, mentally strong and prepared for physically challenging and satisfying work. In addition the successful candidates may often be called upon to work long hours in extreme conditions on duties unrelated to their function. Short-listed candidates will be subjected to screening and security vetting to determine their suitability for employment. Appointment to these positions is subject to a rigorous medical examination, at no cost to the applicants.

ENQUIRIES:

Ms Kate du Toit – 012 420 4573
Email : katedutoit@hotmail.com
Website: www.marionseals.com

CLOSING DATE:

20 November 2017