



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- APPLICATION:** Must be submitted on a Z83 form with a copy of a comprehensive CV, certified copies of qualifications and ID document in order to be considered, and forwarded for the Director-General, Department of Environmental Affairs, **Private Bag X4390, Cape Town, 8000** or **hand-deliver to 14 Loop Street, Cape Town, Attention: Human Resources**. The National Department of Environmental Affairs is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. It is the applicant's responsibility to have foreign qualifications evaluated by the South African Qualification Authority (SAQA).
A covering letter stating why you are eligible for this post and a comprehensive CV should be included. Correspondence will be limited to successful candidates only. If you have not been contacted within three 3 months after the closing date of the advertisement, please accept that your application was unsuccessful. The Department reserves the right not to appoint.
- POST:** **FIELD ASSISTANT: MARION ISLAND MAMMALOGIST (KILLER WHALER) (ONE POSITION) (APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN MONTHS CONTRACT)**
- REF NO:** OC34/2016
- SALARY:** R 171 069 p.a (plus 37% lieu in benefits)
- CENTRE:** MARION ISLAND
- REQUIREMENTS:** BSc (Hons)/ BTech 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 MSOffice (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). Evidenced experience with photography and firearm use. Experience with image manipulation / photographic software (e.g. Lightroom, Photoshop). Must be physically fit, mentally strong, able to swim, NOT COLOUR BLIND (partially or fully) and enthusiastic about research. Appointment to these positions is subject to a rigorous medical examination, which will be arranged for at no cost to the applicants.
Note: Foreign applicants will only be considered if no South African applicants qualify.
- DUTIES:** Monitoring and data collection of killer whales and assistance with seal work for research programme: *"Marion Island Marine Mammals – sensitivity to global drivers of environmental change"*. Activities include behavioural observation, photographic mark-recapture, satellite device deployment, biopsy sampling and measurement. Undertake fieldwork under very rigorous conditions (cold, wet and windy 95% of the time). Fieldwork will encompass 65% of your time on the island, with the remaining time dedicated to office and laboratory work, including analysis of data. 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. Be able to manage large electronic datasets. Opportunity for postgraduate studies upon return from the island under the supervision of the Principal Investigator is possible.
- ENQUIRIES:** Prof. N de Bruyn – Telephone (012) 420 2058
- CLOSING DATE:** 20 October 2016
- NOTE:** The incumbent will execute duties at an Antarctic Base and adhere to the health, safety and environmental requirements. The successful applicant will spend a full year (April 2017 to May

2018) at Marion Island. There is no option to return to South Africa before May 2018. 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, which will be arranged for at no cost to the applicants.