



ADVERTISEMENT

SAPRI Seafloor Instrument Technician

Contract type: Long Term Contract

Job Level: Junior

Work Location: Makhanda/Grahamstown, Eastern Cape

The National Research Foundation (NRF) supports and promotes research and human capital development through funding, the provision of National Research Facilities and science outreach platforms and programmes to the broader community in all fields of science and technology, including natural sciences, engineering, social sciences and humanities.

The South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB), based in Grahamstown, is a National Research Facility of the National Research Foundation. SAIAB is world-renowned centre for the study of African aquatic biodiversity

The DSI's South African Polar Research Infrastructure (SAPRI) consortium is hosted at the NRF South African Environmental Observation Network Egagasini Node. SAPRI aims to enable balanced research growth and access to South African polar and marine disciplines.

Purpose: SAIAB is seeking to appoint a suitably qualified candidate as a seafloor research technician within the SAPRI Seafloor component, hosted by SAIAB's Marine Remote Imagery Platform (MARIP). The primary purpose of the position is to support activities associated with the Seafloor component of the SAPRI and MARIPs research and administration.

Key Responsibilities:

Infrastructure management

Procurement and supply chain management

Field research

Imagery annotation and Data management

Stakeholder engagement, reporting and management

Management of permitting, ethics and reporting administration

Related Skills

Asset management.

Equipment management and maintenance.

Ability to lead large field expeditions.

Proven data management skills.

Ability to work with scientists and students.

Ability to work independently and in a team environment.

Willingness to work after hours, on weekends and extended hours at sea.

Willingness to travel and be away from home for extended periods.

Good communications skills.

Competent swimmer

Key Requirements:

Qualification:

BSc Honours in related Marine Research OR BTech Marine Services/Oceanography

MSc is desirable

Experience:

BSc H/BTech: 3 years' post-degree work experience in the platforms general field of research

MSc: Thesis completed in the platforms general field of research or a related field.

Code B drivers license with =5 years driving experience

Sea-going experience off small (<25m length) research crafts (= 20 sea days) and/or Sea-going experience on large (> 25 m length) research vessels.

High computer literacy with expertise in MS Word, Excel and Access

Knowledge:

Knowledge of benthic/seafloor and/or demersal research and research methods.

Knowledge on South African Marine ecosystems, fish and benthic invertebrates.

Additional Notes:

Desirable additional education and work experience:

Towing license (EB or EC1) with documented experience towing boat-trailers long-distance.

Experience in platform relevant software (SEAGIS, CPCe, BIIGLE, QGIS, R or Python).

Research experience with stereo-BRUVs, landers and/or other imaging systems

Southern Africa and Western Indian Ocean marine fish and/or invertebrate identification.

Commercial SCUBA diving, equivalent to old Class IV.

Experience undertaking SCUBA surveys

Cat C or B skippers ticket

Physical Requirements

Able to pass SAMSA seagoing certification required to work on large and small vessels

The job duties require an employee to bend, stoop, reach, or stand for extended periods.

The job duties require an employee to move, lift, lower and carry heavy objects.

The job duties require an employee to spend extended periods of time at sea.

The job duties may require the employee to swim in the sea.

Additional Application Information:

The full job description with a breakdown of the key responsibilities can be found on the SAIAB website (www.saiab.ac.za).

Information:

The website www.nrf.ac.za provides more details on the NRF initiatives and activities.

Applications:

Applicants should submit a comprehensive CV by logging to <https://ess.nrf.ac.za/Account/Recruitment> and apply online. Applications should be accompanied by a letter of motivation indicating the applicant's suitability for the position. The names and contact details of at least three referees should be provided.

Closing Date: 10 November 2023

The NRF offers a challenging career and competitive remuneration package which is commensurate with qualifications and experience. The NRF is committed to employment equity and redress and the appointment to the position will be made in line with the NRF Employment Equity Plan.

The NRF reserves the right not to make an appointment.

Correspondence will be sent to short-listed candidates only