Senior Technical Officer – Crustacean Fisheries

Position Summary

The Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) offers a Senior Technical Officer (STO) position; it will be based at the Marine Research Laboratories located in Taroona. The successful applicant will work within the Wild Fisheries Research Group as part of the Sustainable Marine Research Collaboration Agreement (SMRCA) with the Tasmanian Government. The appointee will report directly to the Crustacean Fisheries Team Leader at IMAS.

A solution-focused and output-driven professional is required to lead technical support within the Crustacean Fisheries team and potentially provide support other projects in the Wild Fisheries program as needed. The STO will be responsible for supporting data management across a range of research projects to promote the sustainable utilisation of marine resources. In partnership with research team members, the STO will manage catch sampling activities from research and rock lobster/giant crab commercial vessels and assist with the data compilation and integrity checking, including the data screening, analysis, and reporting. A significant component of the position will involve leading and conducting annual catch sampling surveys and coordinating fisheries observers’ operations, promoting the catch sampling programs amongst rock lobster/giant crab fishers, and liaising with volunteer operators involved in them.

Responsibilities may also include laboratory-based analyses and/or experiments to produce the knowledge required to aid management decisions. This may include sample collection from commercial or research field operations. The appointee must ensure compliance with WH&S requirements in on-site and on-field operations and liaise with the IMAS operations team to ensure timely and effective delivery of project activities to meet project timelines.

The successful applicant will also prepare project results for internal and external reporting and extension; therefore, good communication and organisation skills are essential.

We are an inclusive workplace committed to ‘working from the strength that diversity brings’ reflected in our Statement of Values. We are dedicated to attracting, retaining and developing our people and are committed to inclusive principles. We celebrate the range of diverse assets that gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, age and life course bring. Applications are encouraged from all sectors of the community. Tell us how we can make this job work for you.
What You’ll Do

• Under minimal supervision, plan, prepare and coordinate catch data collection by observers in research and commercial vessels, including reviewing procedures, protocols and required gear.
• Liaise with commercial fishers to provide feedback on any issues, concerns, and questions they may have about the ongoing programs or related matters.
• Supervise and conduct biological sampling and data collection onboard research and fishing vessels and carry out experiments when required to develop population biology projects.
• Assist with data compilation and routine data quality control by performing basic screening procedures and visual exploration.
• Assist with the preparation and publication of technical reports and scientific literature.
• Provide mentoring and training to honours and postgraduate students in developing technical capacity and safe work practices.
• Perform other duties within the project as directed by the supervisor.
• Responsible for a safe and clean working environment and equipment.

What We’re Looking For (success criteria)

• A degree in a relevant field, for example, marine science, environmental science, or aquaculture.
• Proficiency in computer programs, including word processing and spreadsheets, coupled with the capability to conduct basic data handling and familiarity with basic statistics.
• Excellent organisational skills and ability to work in a team environment, including the demonstrated ability to lead.
• Ability to be innovative, adaptable, and flexible in an environment of change and competing priorities.
• Greater than five years of experience and knowledge in marine research, particularly fisheries research, including work experience onboard vessels.
• Demonstrated ability to work with high autonomy, using initiative and judgment with a solution focus and an enthusiastic drive to deliver outputs considering WH&S standards and policies.
• Sound interpersonal skills, including written and oral communication skills.
• Current Australian driver’s licence.
• An understanding of and a commitment applying of equal opportunity principles.
• Willingness to travel to remote locations and/or be at sea for extended periods as required in research and fishing vessels.

Other position requirements

• Experience in fisheries research and assessment and/or marine ecological studies.
• Competence and experience with technical work, including the ability to maintain, adapt, design and construct technical equipment.
• Working with experimental animals, including euthanising.
• Laboratory and workshop activities.
• Undertaking manual handling and lifting >10kg.
• Willingness to undertake a medical assessment based on meeting the inherent position requirements.
• Commercial Vessel License Coxswain Grade 1 or higher.
University of Tasmania

The University of Tasmania is an institution with an enduring commitment to our state and community, and a strong global outlook. We are committed to enhancing the intellectual, economic, social and cultural future of Tasmania. Our Strategic Direction strongly reflects the University community's voice that our University must be place based but globally connected as well as regionally networked and designed to deliver quality access to higher education for the whole State.

We believe that from our unique position here in Tasmania we can impact the world through the contributions of our staff, students and graduates. We recognise that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ, as well as creating a university that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

Check out more here:

https://www.utas.edu.au/jobs


The intention of this position description is to highlight the most important aspects, rather than to limit the scope or accountabilities of this role. Duties above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the position.