

DEA REFERENCE NUMBER: 4003

VACANCIES FOR ASPIRANT MAMMALOGISTS (Seals) AT MARION ISLAND IN 2013 - 2014

Deadline for applications: 30 August 2013

The overall research project entitled "**Monitoring of Pinniped Populations at the Prince Edward Islands**" will have positions vacant for biologists/zoologists with an interest in marine mammals.

Applicant expedition requirements:

- 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.
- Must be physically fit and strong, mentally strong, able to swim, not colour blind (partially or fully) or hearing impaired.
- Meticulous observation, note-taking and record-keeping abilities.
- 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.
- Appointment to these positions is subject to a rigorous medical examination, which will be arranged for at no cost to the applicants.
- The ability to work and live with small groups of people is essential.
- Be able to manage electronics, e.g. satellite relay data loggers, camping equipment and a storage facility.
- Successful applicants will spend a full year (April 2014 to May 2015) at Marion Island. *Note that there is no option to return before the end of the expedition, once you land at the island.* The well-equipped new base station has full e-mail, fax and satellite telephone facilities.

Basic Academic 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 (i.e. evidence of at least a successfully passed undergraduate course in this or related subject).
- Basic understanding of statistics (i.e. evidence of at least a successfully passed undergraduate course in this or related subject).

Shortlisted candidates will undergo rigorous competency tests to ensure adherence to requirements prior to being invited to interviews.

This position is open only to South African applicants. Applicants should send their **detailed CV, a cover letter, completed Z83 application form, and Certified copies of qualifications** to:

By post: Department of Environmental Affairs, Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001

Or personally delivered at: 315 Pretorius street, Cnr Pretorius and Lilian Ngoyi Street (former Van Der Walt street), Fedsure Forum Building, 1st Floor, Room 106, Information Centre, North Tower

An electronic/scanned-in version should **ADDITIONALLY** be sent to:

Prof Marthán Bester
Email: mnbest@zoology.up.ac.za

Dr Nico de Bruyn
Email: pjndebruyn@zoology.up.ac.za