

Marine Institute Job Description

Position	Scientific and Technical Officer – Oceanographic and Climate Services
Contract	Specified Purpose Contract up to 31 st December 2023 (providing redeployment cover)
Service Group	Ocean Climate and Information Services (OCIS)
Location	Marine Institute, Oranmore, Galway

Brief description of the Marine Institute:

The Marine Institute is a non-commercial semi-state body, which was formally established by statute (Marine Institute Act, 1991) in October 1992.

Under the Act, the Marine Institute was given the responsibility *“to undertake, to co-ordinate, to promote and to assist in marine research and development and to provide such services related to marine research and development, that in the opinion of the Institute will promote economic development and create employment and protect the marine environment ”*.

The Marine Institute is the national agency responsible for marine research, technology, development and innovation (RTDI). The Marine Institute seeks to assess and realise the economic potential of Ireland’s 220 million acre marine resource; promote the sustainable development of marine industry through strategic funding programmes and scientific services; and safeguard the marine environment through research and environmental monitoring. The Institute works in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) and a network of other Government Departments, semi-state agencies, national and international marine partners.

Our vision - The Marine Institute, as a global leader in ocean knowledge, empowering Ireland and its people to safeguard and harness ocean wealth.

Our Mission - The Marine Institute, provides government, public agencies and the maritime industry with a range of scientific, advisory and economic development services that inform policy-making, regulation and the sustainable management and growth of Ireland’s marine resources. The Institute undertakes, coordinates and promotes marine research and development, which is essential to achieving a sustainable ocean economy, protecting ecosystems and inspiring a shared understanding of the ocean.

In order to achieve this vision, the MI have six service areas; (1) Ocean Climate and Information Services, (2) Marine Environment & Food Safety Services, (3) Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services, (4) Irish Maritime Development Office, (5) Policy, Innovation and Research Services and (6) Corporate Services.

The Marine Institute 5 Year Strategic Plan (2018 to 2022) is available [here](#).

Harnessing our Ocean Wealth (HOOW) is an Integrated Maritime Plan (IMP) for Ireland. HOOW sets out a roadmap for the Irish Government’s vision, high level goals and integrated actions across policy, governance and business to enable our marine potential to be realised. Goal 2 of HOOW focuses on healthy marine ecosystems and specifically; to protect and conserve our rich marine biodiversity and ecosystems; manage our living and non-living resources in harmony with the ecosystem; implement and comply with environmental legislation (see <http://www.ouroceanwealth.ie/>)

Description of Ocean Climate and Information Services (OSIS) Group:

The mission of OCIS is *“To provide scientific, operational and analytical support and services to strategic RTDI and statutory monitoring programmes (at national and international level) to promote and support the sustainable development of Ireland’s marine resources”*

Ocean Climate and Information Services incorporates:

- Information Services & Development
- Advanced Mapping Services
- Research Vessel Operations
- Oceanographic and Climate Services
- Marine Research Infrastructures

Oceanographic and Climate Services (OCS)

The Oceanographic and Climate Services section within OCIS is responsible for the delivery of scientific services to users based on oceanographic data in a wide variety of fields including fisheries, marine environment, aquaculture, search and rescue, tourism and leisure among others. The group is the primary user of both ocean observations and model forecasts and projections in Ireland. The group is comprised of physical oceanographers, ocean modellers, plankton ecologists, project managers and administrators. The group also works with users of climate services in government departments and local authorities, assisting them in their preparedness for climate adaptation.

The Oceanographic and Climate Services section also works on various EU projects including the EuroSea H2020 flagship project on ocean observing and forecasting, Clean Atlantic, iFado, CE2COAST and CoCliME and is active in the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES), EuroGOOS, Copernicus, GO-SHIP and the Joint Programming initiatives for Oceans and Climate. We maintain a strong international collaborative network in oceanographic science.

Summary of the Role:

A physical oceanographer is required to join an existing team of oceanographers and modellers to gather, analyse and generate services from oceanographic data generated by the group, other Marine Institute programmes and internationally available data sets. The oceanographer will support our data collection at sea and work with our data management colleagues to robustly archive, quality assure and analyse the oceanographic datasets of interest to users. These include, but are not limited to tide gauges, offshore weather buoys, conductivity, temperature and depth (CTD) profiles from ships, CTD from moored platforms, ocean gliders, Argo floats and Acoustic Doppler current profilers. The successful applicant will report to the Oceanographic and Climate Services Team Leader.

Principal Tasks:

- Support the collection, quality assurance and processing of a wide array of oceanographic datasets (outlined above).
- Contribute to the planning, development and management of new and existing oceanographic datasets including ship based observations, moored platforms and ocean gliders. This includes working on Ireland’s contribution to the GO-SHIP hydrography programme, ICES Working Group Oceanic Hydrography and other international initiatives.
- Co-design the Quality Management Framework for oceanographic data sets at Marine

Institute.

- Conduct seagoing oceanographic data collection on behalf of the Institute on the national research vessels and local vessels as required.
- Analyse oceanographic datasets to generate scientific publications that provide the basis for oceanographic products and services to clients.
- Work with internal and external clients for oceanographic and climate data to assist in defining requirements and user needs.
- Assist in the procurement of goods and services required in support of our work including liaising with manufacturers to assess suitability of new equipment to our work programmes.
- Assist in the delivery and reporting of EC and national oceanography and climate projects.
- Attend relevant national and international meetings on behalf of the Marine Institute (as defined by the appropriate Section Manager or Director).
- Any other duties relevant to the programme, grade and role as required from time to time.

Reporting Structure:

The successful candidate will report to the Team Leader Oceanographic and Climate Services.

Contacts:

The successful candidate will be expected to work on a daily basis with colleagues in the Oceanographic and Climate Services, Marine Research Infrastructures team, Marine Operations, and wider OCIS service area. They will also work with MI colleagues in other service groups and our national and international partners (including project partners) as required.

Education, Professional or Technical Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills, Aptitudes, Experience, and Training

Essential:

- A minimum of a degree in a relevant scientific or technical subject (mathematics, oceanography, marine science or engineering)
- Experience working with oceanographic data sets e.g. CTD, ADCP, gliders, Argo floats, underway systems on ships and can demonstrate a good numeric ability.
- Basic Knowledge of quality assurance procedures, data handling and processing, and applying statistical or mathematical methods using appropriate software (e.g. Excel, Matlab, R).
- Track record in producing scientific reports and/or papers.
- Experience in a technical support role in the delivery of projects / service outputs.
- Experience of quality assuring data sets.
- Experience in working as part of a team.
- The ability to communicate effectively both in writing and verbally at all levels.
- Proven collaborative skills including team working and wider project outreach and networking.
- The ability to work unsupervised with demonstrated ability to use initiative.
- Sufficiently fit to pass an ENG11 medical.
- Willingness to engage in outdoor work
- Computer skills including MS Office suite & GIS.

Desirable:

- A PhD in oceanography or closely related discipline
- Demonstrated relevant post qualification work experience in an oceanographic research or services environment.
- A minimum of three years of relevant work experience in oceanographic data collection and analysis.
- Track record in producing scientific publications as a main or co-author in recognised journals.
- Strong track record in delivering services to clients/users.
- Understanding of Data Management process & procedures.
- Experience of public sector procurement.
- Seagoing experience.
- Experience of reporting and client liaison.
- Experience with procurement / purchasing items.
- Full, clean driving licence.

Special personal attributes required for the position:

- Possesses sound, balanced judgement and strong analytical abilities.
- Ability to effectively communicate results of teamwork in written, oral and audio-visual formats.
- An ability to work in an organised manner and progress work independently.
- Innovative, dynamic and reliable.
- Self-sufficient, while being a good team player.
- An interest in travel for international project meetings and seagoing activity.
- Good interpersonal skills.
- Possess a diplomatic manner, with the ability to resolve issues before conflict arises.
- Solutions-oriented with good initiative and problem-solving ability.
- Ability to meet multiple, important deadlines.

Salary:

Remuneration is in accordance with the Public Sector, Department of Finance approved Salary Scale for Scientific and Technical Officers, with a starting salary of €32,321 - €67,440 (as at 1st October 2020) per annum pro-rated with time worked. You will become a member of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme if you are not currently a member of a public sector pension scheme (or have not been a member in the past six months). Salary and Pension Scheme are subject to public sector approved norms and take account of recent service in the public sector in lien with relevant circulars and rules.

Annual Leave:

Annual leave entitlement for a Scientific & Technical Officer is 25 working days per annum pro-rated to reflect time worked. Annual leave entitlements are exclusive of Public Holidays. All leave must be approved in advance in line with Marine Institute leave policies, by your manager or their authorised representative

Duration of Contract:

This temporary specified purpose contract of employment, providing redeployment cover will run for up to 31st December 2023. The successful candidate will be on probation for the first 6 months

of this contract.

How to Apply:

A C.V. and letter of application, summarising experience and skill set applicable to the position should be emailed to recruitment@marine.ie or posted to Human Resources at the Marine Institute, Rinville, Oranmore, Galway. All correspondence for this post should quote reference **Scientific and Technical Officer – Oceanographic and Climate Services / February 2021**

Closing date for Applications:

All applications for this post should be received by the Marine Institute in advance of **12 noon Wednesday 24th February 2021**. Please note that late applications will not be accepted

Use of Data - all personal data and the information submitted for this application will be used solely for the purpose of this campaign, after which it will be deleted in line with our General Data Protection Regulation Policy and data retention schedule. All information will be treated with the strictest confidence and accessed only by those involved directly in the campaign.

The Marine Institute is an equal opportunities employer