

Marine Institute Job Description

Position	Temporary Section Manager - Marine Renewable Energy (MRE) and Marine Infrastructure Projects
Contract	Temporary Specified Purpose Contract for a duration of up to 3 years, SEAI & EMSO Link Funded
Service Group	Ocean Science and Information Services (OSIS)
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 990,000 km² 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.

The vision of the Marine Institute is *“a thriving maritime economy in harmony with the ecosystem and supported by the delivery of excellence in our services.”*

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

The Marine Institute 3 Year Strategic Plan (2015 to 2018) is available on:

http://www.marine.ie/Home/sites/default/files/MIFiles/Docs_Comms/MI%20Strategic%20Business%20Plan%20-%202015%20-%202018.pdf. A new Marine Institute five-year strategy is currently in preparation and will be launched in 2018.

Ocean Wealth (HOOW) is Ireland’s Integrated Maritime Plan (see www.ouroceanwealth.ie). HOOW sets out a roadmap for the Government’s vision, high level goals and integrated actions to enable Ireland’s marine potential to be realised. As part of the implementation of HOOW, the Government published in 2017 the National Marine Research & Innovation Strategy 2017-2021.

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

The mission of OSIS 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 Science and Information Services incorporates:

- Information Services & Development
- Advanced Mapping Services
- Research Vessel Operations
- Oceanographic Services
- Research Infrastructures
- Operational elements of Discovery R&D Programmes including
 - Advanced Technology including SMARTBAY
 - Ocean Energy

Ocean Energy RTDI in the Marine Institute

Ireland’s offshore renewable energy resources, in the form of offshore wind, wave and tide are considered as being among the best in the world. The Marine Institute is actively promoting research into wave and tide energy. The Marine Institute, in association with Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland, established the [Galway Bay Wave Energy Test Site](#) for testing 1/4 scale Wave Energy prototypes. Planning is underway to improve the facilities at the site.

The Marine Institute and SEAI are collaborating with a number of partners on the development of a national test and demonstration facility for marine energy and technology at the 1/4 scale ocean energy test site in Galway Bay. The Institute also works closely with the SEAI, academia, state agencies, international research groups as well as the renewable energy sector in the development of policy and the targeting of strategic investment.

The MI and SEAI have an annually renewed Service Level Agreement, supported by a multi-annual agreement, which describes a range of collaborative activities which underpin the delivery of key elements of the Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan.

The Marine Institute also operates a cabled observatory co-located at the test site

H2020 EMSO-Link & EMSO European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC)

EMSO-Link is a 3-year project underpinning the long-term sustainability of [EMSO](#) (European Multidisciplinary Seafloor and water-column Observatory) ERIC, the pan European distributed Research Infrastructure (RI) composed of fixed point open ocean observatories for the study and monitoring of European seas. EMSO pursues the long-term objective to be part of the upcoming European Ocean Observing System (EOOS), which is expected to integrate multiple platforms and data systems, including other ERICs, to achieve the first sustained, standardized and permanent observatory network of the European seas. EMSO ERIC coordinates the access to the facilities and supports the management of data streams from EMSO observatories. EMSO-Link will accelerate the establishment of EMSO ERIC governance rules and procedures and will facilitate the coordination of EMSO infrastructure construction, operation, extension and maintenance. The Galway Bay Test Site is a regional EMSO node available for transnational-access and testing.

Summary of the Role:

The role of the Section Manager MRE and Marine Infrastructure Projects will be to manage the operational activity, strategic development, and governance of the Marine Institute's contribution to the National Ocean Energy Programme. Furthermore this position will oversee relevant European and other international collaborative projects and programmes including Ireland's involvement in the EMSO ERIC

Principal Tasks:

- Provide full oversight and management of MI Ocean Energy programme and coastal observational activities of the Galway Bay Test Site as MI Lead.
- Responsibility for liaison with developers, SEAI, other Government Bodies and research centres and universities, both national and international.
- Act as MI Lead in relation to any environmental monitoring and planning required for the test site.
- Manage the provision of Institute operational services at Galway Bay OE test sites and Atlantic Marine Energy Test Site (AMETS -(Mayo) test site, including workspace rental, technical support, procurement, materials, tooling, divers, transport and work vessels.
- Oversee data management activities in the OE area and specifically the development of an OE data portal.
- Act as delegate in support of OSIS Director on the EMSO ERIC Assembly of Members.
- Oversee the successful MI contribution to all OE and Marine Infrastructure relevant externally funded projects (e.g H2020, Interreg) and drive involvement in relevant future programmes and initiatives in line with MI and national strategic goals.
- Develop and promote the Galway Bay Cabled Observatory as a national research and technology platform including its role as an EMSO Regional Node.
- Oversee the operational delivery and support for the National Infrastructure Access Programmes at the test site.
- Team management and capacity development of the entire OE & Test Site section.
- Management of promotion and development services provided by Smartbay Ltd.
- Management of external contracted technical services.
- Work with AMS, SEAI and others to plan marine bathymetric survey activities.
- Work with Oceanographic Services and Marine Operational Services to develop coastal ocean observing activities as part of the wider developing [European Ocean Observing System \(EOOS\)](#).
- Management of the communication strategy and initiatives for the Test Site, EU infrastructure projects and associated activities in collaboration with MI Communications Team.

Reporting Structure:

The successful candidate will report to the OSIS Director.

Contacts:

The successful candidate will be expected to work on a daily basis with colleagues in OSIS and other service areas including Policy, Innovation & Research Services. Additionally there will be regular interaction with colleagues in the SEAI, relevant other Government Agencies & Departments, and the national and international research and observational communities.

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

Essential:

- A minimum of a degree in a relevant scientific, engineering or technical subject.
- A proven background in marine research and/or marine science infrastructure operational projects.
- A minimum of 5 years post qualification work experience in a marine research or infrastructure operations environment.
- Familiarity with providing oceanographic services to marine sectors e.g. Ocean energy, Advanced Marine Technology, marine tourism etc.
- Experience in writing/publishing academic papers or technical/scientific reports.
- Experience in developing and delivering EC or Industry- funded projects (e.g. EC, Interreg).
- Demonstrated collaborative skills at a national and international level.
- A proven record of sourcing external funding for research/operational projects.
- Extensive experience of operational management and delivery.
- Effective communication skills - both verbal and writing and the ability to interact effectively at all levels (nationally and internationally) and in multiple fora.
- Demonstrate a high level of political acuity and ability to interact with high level stakeholders.
- Computer skills including MS Office suite.
- Demonstrated experience as a manager of a technical team.
- Demonstrated management experience in the areas of procurement; financial (to include accounts preparation and budgeting); staff management, development and administration.
- Demonstrated Seagoing experience.

Desirable:

- Postgraduate qualification in physical science, mathematics or engineering.
- Track record in successful proposal writing, project coordination and evaluation.
- Full, clean driving licence

Special personal attributes required for the position:

- An ability to work individually, take responsibility and drive forward complex programmes.
- Innovative, dynamic and reliable.
- A confident leader with excellent team management skills.
- A capacity for effective engagement with a wide range of stakeholders from early career researchers, to local communities, to industry and to high level civil servants.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Ability to distil complex information into concise and effective communication targeted at the audience in question, both orally and in written form.
- Possess a diplomatic manner, with the ability to resolve issues with stakeholders before conflict arises.
- Solutions-oriented with advanced initiative and problem-solving abilities.
- Ability to meet multiple, important deadlines.

Salary:

Remuneration is in accordance with the Public Sector, Department of Finance approved Salary Scale for the Section Manager (Engineer I grade) with a salary of €69,239 per annum pro-rated with time worked. You will become a member of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme.

Annual Leave:

Annual leave entitlement for a Section Manager is 30 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 will run for a duration of up to 3 years in line with the activities outlined. The successful candidate will be on probation for the first 12 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 **OSIS/Section Manager MRE & EU Projects/ Nov 2018**.

Closing date for Applications:

All applications for this post should be received by the Marine Institute in advance of **12 noon on Monday December 10th 2018**. 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