The Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources-American Samoa Government is seeking applicants to fill soon to be vacant positions: (1) Key Reef Species Biologist; and (2) MPA Program Leader; in the Fishery Division.

**Job Title:** Key Reef Species Biologist  
**Job Family:** Science  
**Job number:** 400001 (Fishery Biologist III, Supervisor)  
**Salary Grade:** GS15

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:** The Key Reef Species Biologist is a professional level biologist in charge of the Key Reef Species Program of the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources-American Samoa Government. This position involves active field research, planning, grant management, logistics, data analysis, report writing, and personnel management.

Serve as the Project Leader of the Key Reef Species Program;
- Plan and coordinate research direction with the Chief Fishery Biologist;
- Estimate and obtain approval of project budgets and narrative, respectively;
- Supervise and regularly assign tasks to research technicians;
- Conduct ecological field and laboratory work;
- Perform logistic coordination for fieldwork and follow ups on project administration-related activities;
- Provide technical expertise to other resource management agencies and the public as needed about the territory’s marine resources;
- Draft and publish department biological reports and submit performance reports; and
- Represent DMWR at international, national, and regional technical meetings where appropriate.

**SPECIFIC DUTIES:** This position is responsible for the implementation of Key Reef Species Program research projects specified under the American Samoa Sportfish Investigation and Conservation 5-year Grant Proposal. These projects are research oriented and the candidate is expected to collect the necessary data, perform data analysis, draft department biological reports and eventually publish the results in peer-reviewed journals. Descriptions of the projects are found below:

**Monitoring of key reef species at various spatial and temporal scales within the American Samoa Territory:** This project involves annual monitoring of sportfish populations at the 24 permanent monitoring sites around Tutuila and possibly expanding to other island groups to determine the status of the population across space and time. Habitat and environmental variables are used as a covariate to explain the patterns in the population distribution. This project also aims to look into the impacts of habitat degradation on juvenile fish habitat as one of its objectives.

**Age and growth studies on dominant key reef species:** This project aims to determine age and growth patterns of the dominant key reef species as influenced by fishing pressure
and other environmental variables. This involves a lot of back calculations from the otolith archives and some hatchery experiments to calibrate growth readings.

Characterizing Tutuila shelf habitat: This project involves population and habitat assessment of sportfish found at the continental shelf of Tutuila and possibly other island groups of American Samoa. This would involve basic mapping of habitat and resources.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY: Knowledge of fisheries management and conservation issues, tropical fisheries, statistical analyses, field survey methods, sampling equipment, computer, and data management. Ability to fluently communicate orally and in writing (in English). Must be comfortable in a multicultural working environment. Must be physically fit and able to work independently under challenging circumstances. Scuba certification required. Must be experienced in diver surveys of reef fishes.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Priority is given for candidates with Master of Science degree from accredited institution with a major in marine biology, fisheries management AND two years of experience in a closely related field. Must have a track history of peer-reviewed journal publication of which the candidate is the lead author. Candidates with a Bachelor of Science degree of the same field of expertise will also be accepted but must have at least 5 years of working experience in similar field. Candidate with GIS experience is a merit.

SALARY: $30,000 U.S. per year with a two year contract renewable by mutual consent. Annual and sick leave accumulate at 8 hours and 4 hours per bi-weekly pay period. Subsidized housing (80% subsidized) and medical care.

APPLICATION: Send or fax cover letter, resume, name and phone numbers of 3 references

Attention: Marlowe Sabater, Chief Fishery Biologist
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