Job Description

Job Title: Chief of Marine Operations (CMO)
Job ID: 12150
Location: Palmyra
Regular/Temporary: Regular

ABOUT US

The Nature Conservancy is the world's leading conservation organization, working in all 50 states and more than 33 countries. Founded in 1951, the mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

POSITION SUMMARY

Located 1,000 miles south of Hawai'i and an untold distance from civilization, Palmyra Atoll is one of the most spectacular marine wilderness areas on Earth. Palmyra is a 680-acre atoll with 480,000 acres of lagoons, coral reefs, and submerged lands. Palmyra is a US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Refuge out to 12 miles and a Marine National Monument out to 50 miles. The Nature Conservancy owns Cooper Island, and manages the atoll in partnership with the USFWS.

Palmyra's research station supports scientific research by the world renowned research institutions making up the Palmyra Atoll Research Consortium (PARC) (see www.palmyra-research.org). Staff is hired on a seasonal basis for approximately 3 months at a time to run the research station and camp facilities. Board and lodging are provided while on-island.

The Chief of Marine Operations is responsible for all marine operations on Palmyra Atoll. Primary responsibilities include: safe navigation and operation of a 25' Dive Boat and a 24' rescue boat; coordination and oversight of marine activity for and with all visitors, including but not limited to offshore and lagoon boating, SCUBA diving, and fishing trips; management and supervision of other Marine Department staff and equipment; other duties assigned by the Field Station Manager.

This is a 3 month assignment with the opportunity to return for future employment based on successful job performance. Assignments require residence on Palmyra Atoll with no option of leaving until season is complete. The CMO is supervised by the Field Station Manager.

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS

When applying, please address how you meet all these basic qualifications in your cover letter.

- Bachelor's degree in biology or other natural resources field and 3 years relevant work experience or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Minimum two years experience as a licensed USCG captain (25 ton or higher) with a towing endorsement.
- Current Rescue Diver certification from a qualified organization (NAUI, PADI or equivalent).
- Extensive knowledge of SCUBA gear and compressors.
- Extensive experience working with SCUBA divers, including drop off and pick up of drift divers.
- Basic First Aid and CPR certification.
- Experience operating Radar, VHF radios, Sounders, Compass and GPS Chartplotter.
- Experience maintaining diesel and gasoline engines, conducting preventative maintenance and performing minor mechanical and electrical repairs.
- Proven experience troubleshooting mechanical problems in the field.
- Experience providing education or interpretation about marine resources to a lay audience.
- Experience using common software applications such as Word, Excel, Web browsers, etc.
- Experience performing physical work.
ADDITIONAL JOB INFORMATION

OTHER KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS DESIRES:
• Knowledge of marine management principles and fish and marine mammal species of the Pacific.
• Sport fishing skills, including rigging, filleting, and processing fish.
• Knowledge of current trends and practices in conservation, land management and/or natural resource preservation.

ADDITIONAL JOB INFORMATION

The CMO will work 6 days per week, in variable weather conditions (hot, humid, wet), at a remote location, on difficult and hazardous terrain, and under physically demanding circumstances. These conditions:
• require considerable physical exertion and/or muscular strain
• present frequent possibility of injury
• require long hours in isolated settings
• require living on Palmyra Atoll for approximately 3 months at a time with no option to leave
• require living and working with a small community of people 24/7
• require employees to be on call on 48 hour shifts to allow for 24 hour a day emergency coverage
• require employees to assist with community chores even on days off

HOW TO APPLY

Please complete an online application at www.nature.org/careers and upload a cover letter that addresses how you meet the basic qualifications listed and a resume.

EOE STATEMENT

The Nature Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer.