Job Description

Job Title: Mechanic/Boat Captain, Palmyra Atoll
Job ID: 12359
Location: Palmyra
Full/Part Time: Full-Time
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 and the Palmyra Atoll Research Consortium (PARC).

Palmyra’s research station supports scientific research by world renowned research institutions (see www.palmyra-research.org). Staff are hired for a 3 month assignment to run the research station and camp facilities. Board and lodging are provided while on-island.

The Mechanic/Boat Captain is responsible for the maintenance of a 25’ Dive Boat and skiffs with outboard motors. This position will lead on the routine maintenance and repair of all marine equipment (boats, outboards, scuba compressor and gear), and other gasoline and diesel powered equipment and vehicles at the field station. This includes diesel generators, tractors, and a variety of heavy equipment. This position spends no more than 40% time acting as boat captain, which includes the safe navigation and operation of a 25’ Dive Boat, while deploying and retrieving divers. The Mechanic/Boat Captain also operates skiffs with 15 hp outboard motors, and trains and observes station users for independent operation of skiffs. This position spends 60 - 75% time on maintenance/mechanical duties, as well as other duties assigned by the Chief of Marine Operations or Field Station Manager.

This is a seasonal assignment with the opportunity to return for future assignments based on performance. Assignments require residence on Palmyra Atoll with no option of leaving until season is complete.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

• High school diploma and 4 years direct experience in applied mechanical maintenance.
• Minimum one year USGS OUPV captain’s license.
• Experience operating VHF radios, Sounders, Compass and GPS Chartplotter.
• Experience with repairing mechanical equipment and engines.
• Minimum one year experience maintaining diesel inboard/outboard engines and gasoline outboard engines.
• Certified SCUBA diver with ability to maintain, troubleshoot, repair and operate SCUBA gear and compressors. Divemaster certification preferred.
• Ability to lift up to 50 pounds.
• Experience troubleshooting mechanical problems while out on the water.
• Ability to operate various types of equipment in a safe and efficient manner (e.g.; lawn mower, chainsaw, tractor, backhoe, bulldozer, dump truck, two-way radio, etc)
• Ability to complete tasks independently and manage diverse activities under deadlines.
• Ability to perform physical work, sometime under adverse conditions or in inclement weather
• Ability to operate a motor vehicle and possession of a valid driver’s license.
• Ability to maintain, troubleshoot and repair electrical, pump, steering and other boat systems.
• Ability to apply marine safety to decision-making and guide activities.
• Knowledge of current trends and practices in marine safety and marine sciences.
• Basic First Aid and CPR certified.
• Experience working with SCUBA divers including drop off and pick up of drift divers.
• Sport fishing skills including rigging, filleting and processing fish desirable.
• Experience repairing and servicing diesel and gasoline driven vehicles and equipment.

**BASIC QUALIFICATIONS**

• High school diploma and 4 years direct experience in applied mechanical maintenance.
• Minimum one year USGS OUPV captain’s license.
• Experience operating VHF radios, Sounders, Compass and GPS Chartplotter.
• Experience with repairing mechanical equipment and engines.
• Minimum two years experience maintaining and repairing diesel inboard/outboard engines and gasoline outboard engines.
• Certified SCUBA diver with ability to maintain, troubleshoot, repair and operate SCUBA gear and compressors.
• Ability to lift up to 50 pounds.
• Experience troubleshooting mechanical problems while out on the water.

**ADDITIONAL JOB INFORMATION**

The Mechanic/Boat Captain 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
- exposure to petroleum products, paint and fuels
- require living with a small community of people 24/7 with no option to leave for 3 months
- 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 resume and cover letter. Please explain how you meet the 8 basic qualifications listed. Review of applications will be on-going as needed as assignments are seasonal and filled year round.

The successful candidate must possess, or be able to obtain, a valid Passport with an expiration date later than your term of employment, proof of a physical examination showing good physical and a current tetanus vaccination. In addition, TNC requires staff to obtain a membership in an Emergency Evacuation Service. More information on these issues can be obtained and it is expected that the successful candidate cover the costs associated with these items.

Failure to complete all of the required fields may result in your application being disqualified from consideration. The information entered in the education and work experience sections are auto screened by the system based on the basic qualifications of the position.

You must click submit to apply for the position. Click save if you want to be able to return to your application and submit it later. Once submitted, applications cannot be revised or edited.

**EOE STATEMENT**

The Nature Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer.