



## VACANCY

### COASTAL SEABIRDS PROJECT MANAGER

**BirdLife South Africa** is looking for a qualified, dedicated and dynamic Coastal Seabirds Project Manager to be based in Cape Town to assist in developing science-based tools to incorporate seabird spatio-temporal data into (1) a regulatory framework that can inform an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, and (2) marine spatial planning initiatives.

The position is focused on translating science into conservation action for threatened coastal seabird species in South Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

**BirdLife South Africa**, with its head office in Johannesburg, South Africa, is one of the largest, most active, non-governmental conservation organisations in South Africa.

**BirdLife South Africa** is the South African Partner of BirdLife International, which operates through partners in more than 120 countries and territories worldwide. The BirdLife Partnership is the leading and internationally-acclaimed authority on the status of birds, their habitats, and the issues affecting birds. BLSA has special links with the BirdLife partners in Africa, and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) in the UK.

### PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

**The primary responsibilities of the Coastal Seabirds Project Manager will include, but not be limited to:**

- Conducting fieldwork, including the deployment of biologgers, on African Penguins and other threatened Benguela endemic seabird species both during and outside of the breeding season at various colonies.
- Coordinating the deployment, calibration and maintenance of passive monitoring systems at seabird colonies.
- Incorporating scientifically-defendable outputs of seabird research, including spatial assessments and interactions with at-sea threats into proactive and reactive conservation initiatives.
- Assisting with the coordination of the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) Multi-Species Action Plan with addressing threats to coastal seabird species in the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem.
- Managing the Atlas of Seabirds at Sea (AS@S) project including the coordination of volunteers and steering committee meetings.
- General office administration, including assistance with communications (i.e. social media, BirdLife South Africa articles, others) and fundraising initiatives.

## INHERENT REQUIREMENTS

The inherent requirements for the position are:

- Minimum of a MSc or equivalent qualification in the natural sciences.
- Proven competency with R statistical software and spatial analysis packages (this may be tested during the selection process).
- Published articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals.
- Field experience including experience with handling seabirds or larger birds (please elaborate on this requirement in your cover letter).
- Good physical fitness with the ability to conduct fieldwork under challenging conditions.
- South African citizen or permanent resident.
- Fluency in written and spoken English.
- A valid code B drivers licence.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Experience working with telemetry data and the deployment of biologgers.
- Knowledge of principles of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management.
- Ability to work with a broad range of stakeholders.
- Ability to work independently.
- Demonstrable organisational and good interpersonal skills.
- Conversational Afrikaans or Xhosa.

## GENERAL

The successful candidate will report to BirdLife South Africa's Seabird Conservation Programme Manager.

The position will be at BirdLife South Africa's offices in Claremont, Cape Town. The initial term of the contract will be fixed for 12 months. Renewal of the contract for an additional 12 months will be dependent on the availability of funding and performance.

The nature of the position requires the incumbent to sometimes work after hours and over weekends and, at times, may involve extensive travel.

Shortlisted candidates may be required to perform a task.

## REMUNERATION

**Salary:** BirdLife South Africa offers a salary which is commensurate with the position and responsibilities. The salary information is available on request. For any further enquiries, please feel free to contact 011 789 1122.

**Fringe benefits:** BirdLife South Africa provides comprehensive group life insurance.

## INTERVIEW

**Interview:** Successful applicants will be required to attend interviews in Claremont, Cape Town or remotely via remote video conferencing.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

### Applicants are to submit:

- A detailed curriculum vitae with two contactable referees.
- Copies of qualifications.
- A list of publications and other achievements.
- A copy of the applicant's identity document and driver's license.
- A detailed cover letter.

### Please note:

- All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence. Communication will be limited to shortlisted candidates only. Should you not be contacted within two weeks of the closing date for applications, you may assume that your application was unsuccessful.
- BirdLife South Africa reserves the right not to make an appointment.
- BirdLife South Africa subscribes to and applies the principles prescribed by the Employment Equity Act. Preference will be given to candidates from designated groups, in accordance with the principles of the aforementioned act and the employee profile of the specific programme.
- BirdLife South Africa subscribes to and applies the principles of the Protection of Personal Information Act.

**Assumption of duties:** As soon as possible

**Closing date:** 3 October 2024

**To apply** please e-mail your CV and motivation to BirdLife South Africa's HR Manager, Dr Isabel Human, at [isabel.human@birdlife.org.za](mailto:isabel.human@birdlife.org.za) with the subject title **COASTAL SEABIRD PROJECT MANAGER**.

**For further information**, contact Dr Alistair McInnes, Seabird Conservation Programme Manager, at [alistair.mcinnnes@birdlife.org.za](mailto:alistair.mcinnnes@birdlife.org.za)