



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT
Vacancy Notice

DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION AND FISHERIES

Total package value up to £62,250
(accompanied status, including allowances and housing)

Additional benefits include annual home leave, vehicle and personal effects shipping to and from Ascension, free medical and dental care and free schooling for dependant children up to 16 years.

About the role

We are looking for an experienced conservation manager to lead the Ascension Island Government's Conservation and Fisheries Directorate and implement the island's Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. Ascension Island is a biodiversity hotspot including at least 67 endemic species, 500,000 breeding seabirds, diverse and abundant marine ecosystems and one of the Atlantic's largest populations of nesting green turtles. You will be responsible for protecting this biodiversity by leading a team of committed conservationists based on the island and building partnerships with international organisations. This role is funded by the UK Government's Blue Belt Programme.

What you'll do

You will provide the strategic direction for the Conservation and Fisheries Directorate and manage a team of 24 staff to deliver the objectives of the Biodiversity Action Plan and protected area management plans. This includes working with the UK Government's Blue Belt Programme to manage one of the world's largest highly-protected Marine Protected Areas. Much of the work of the Directorate is externally-funded, so you will secure grants and partnerships to deliver priority work areas and coordinate the management and reporting of these projects. You will provide advice to Ascension Island Government colleagues on all aspects of biodiversity and environmental protection and ensure compliance with relevant legislation. Where necessary, you will work with colleagues to draft new legislation

What you'll bring

We are looking for someone with extensive experience in conservation management who is able to combine strategic planning with the ability to implement change on the ground. You will be a strong leader who can provide direction, guidance and support to a diverse team. You will have a proven track record in securing external funding and building relationships with external partners. You must be capable of identifying research needs and synthesising complex information to deliver evidence-based management of protected areas and species. Good communication is at the heart of this role so you must be able to convey information to a diverse range of audiences through a variety of channels. Ascension Island is a challenging environment to live and work in, so you will need to be resilient and adaptable in order to thrive.

What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of £44,190 per year (taxable in Ascension), the role is accompanied status and attracts the following

- Rent free accommodation (value £600+ per month)
- A food allowance of £7,200 accompanied or £3,600 single status per year
- An electricity allowance worth £938 per year
- A water allowance worth £2,729 accompanied or £1,360 single status per year
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including the shipment of a vehicle

- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2 year contract
- 30 days annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free schooling for dependent children from 4 to 16 years
- Free annual travel insurance

The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- Enhanced criminal records check
- Satisfactory medical and dental clearance

What's it like to work on Ascension?

Ascension is a small volcanic island, situated in the South Atlantic, with a warm stable climate (26-34°C). We are part of the wider UK Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, situated approximately 1,000 miles from the mainland of Africa and 800 miles from our nearest neighbour, the island of St Helena. To thrive here in this high-profile role, you must be resilient, adaptable and able to live and work in an incredibly small community with limited availability of perishable food, non-food items and internet connectivity.

Closing date: 9th April 2023

Interviews: week beginning 17th April 2023 (Remotely if off island)

Required start date: July 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter

For more information, a full job description and to apply for this role, visit: <https://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/>

For more information about the Ascension Island Government Conservation and Fisheries Directorate, or about living and working on Ascension Island, please visit the official website at

www.ascension.gov.ac/conservation or find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/AscensionIslandConservation

If you have any queries about the role, email: recruitment@ascension.gov.ac