**Job Description**

**1. Job Details**

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| Job Title:  | Undergraduate Research Experience Placement: Assessing Impacts of Fish-Farms on Sediments | Department: | Science |
| Line Manager: | PDRA in eDNA-based Environmental Impact Monitoring | Rate of Pay: | £10.90 per hour |
| Full Time/Part Time | Opportunity can be carried out on a full time or part time basis over the summer months from Jun to Sep. | Duration of Appointment: | Up to 6 – 8 weeks |

**2. Job Purpose**

To assist in laboratory analysis of sediments and explore methods for eDNA-based environmental impact assessment around fish farms.

**3. Main Responsibilities**

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| *Role Description* | *Approx. %**of time* |
| Assist in particle size and loss on ignition analysis (of sediments)  | 45 |
| Assist in generation of infaunal quality index scores via use of online Excel spreadsheet | 25 |
| Assist in testing R library currently being developed within the BactMetBar project.  | 25 |
| Assist in benthic sampling around fish-cages (fieldwork) | 5 |
| Be pro-active in the application of SAMS Health and Safety Procedures | Ongoing |

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**4. Planning and Organising**

Day to day management of daily schedule, including booking equipment to ensure timely delivery of objectives.

**5. Problem-Solving**

Managing space/time in lab (e.g. freeze-drying), understanding and assessing code (following familiarisation and training).

**6. Decision-Making**

Feeding forward ideas to PI/manager on how to optimise outcomes and acting on PI/manager lead.

**7. Key Contacts/Relationships**

Working with lab manager and related technical support.

**8. Knowledge, Skills and Experience needed for the Job**

* Currently studying an UG degree –with marine science experience.
* Ability to work independently but seek appropriate level of guidance where necessary.
* Some familiarity with R and willingness to develop further bioanalytical skills required.

**9. Dimensions – Scope of role**

The scope of the role is appropriate for a 6 – 10 week undergraduate placement. Supervision by post-docs will be on a day-to-day basis, initially, till students familiarised with their routine and working effectively.

**10. Any other relevant information**

The post holder may be required to perform duties other than those given in the job description for the post. The particular duties and responsibilities attached to posts may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibilities entailed**.** If the normal duties of the post include going to sea (apart from small boats e.g. RHIB's) the applicant must be able to obtain the ENG1 medical certification and complete the STCW 95 Personal Survival Techniques training.

[WHAT SAMS CAN OFFER YOU (please right click and select ‘open in new tab’)](https://vimeo.com/411370772)

Our Values and Culture

We strive to be a world-class marine science enterprise that underpins regional, national, and international policy, and societal action to secure healthy and sustainable oceans. As a workforce, we have a strong family and team culture, helping each other to achieve our goals.

Remuneration

We offer a competitive salary and pension as well as employee benefits package. We also have a number of supportive policies to assist absence, family, and other leave types.

Career Goals

SAMS provides a supportive learning and career growth environment for those looking for that next step in their career or upskill in the workplace. This may be through opportunities to develop techniques, learn more about the science objectives for the group, gain some tutorial opportunities, as well as attend meetings and CPD events.

We’ll provide you with a good start as you join SAMS

SAMS provides an excellent induction which is a great introduction to the organisation, the facilities, your department and team, and provides that support that you need over the early months joining a new organisation. We will also provide you with office space, computing equipment and ensure this is ready for you on your first day of work.

Employee Benefits

In addition to a general remuneration package which includes a generous salary, pension, and sickness absence policy, we offer a number of employee benefits to our staff, some of which are listed below:

* Flexible & Hybrid working arrangements (up to 2 days working from home)
* Purchase of additional annual leave – up to 20 days per annum
* Access to shopping discounts as well as local shop and leisure discounted memberships
* Cycle to work scheme
* Purchase of technology
* Payroll Giving
* Salary Sacrifice – pensions
* Access to wellbeing portals which provide support for mental health, nutrition and fitness and GP referral scheme
* Occupational health support
* Welfare support on site
* Access to CBT sessions
* Sabbatical scheme
* A number of training and development courses to assist you with your career development – leadership, coaching and mentoring.

SAMS’ commitment to gender equality has been recognised, as our institute was presented with an Athena SWAN (Scientific Women’s Academic Network) Bronze Award. SAMS is currently working towards a silver award.

SAMS have received a Bronze Award through the Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme. We recognise the contribution that Service personnel, reservists, veterans, the cadet movement, and military families make to our organisation, our community and to the country. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant through Education, training, and employment of veterans and Service spouses.

As an Academic Partner of the University of the Highlands & Islands (UHI), SAMS is designated as an educational establishment and subject to the provisions of the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act. Certain roles may be subject to a satisfactory check by Disclosure (Scotland) as a condition of their appointment.

Applications must include CV and Cover Letter and should be sent electronically to recruitment@sams.ac.uk quoting Job Ref. ‘D07/23.AW’ in the subject line.

The closing date for applications is midday on Wednesday 12th July 2023

Interviews will be held the same week

Please note, we prefer to contact referees prior to interview

Guidance for Applicants

Candidates must have the rights to work in the UK.

Your application – what are we looking for?

We are looking for a full CV – please remember to document all your relevant work experience, listed with the most recent first. You should also include your educational achievements with you most recent qualification first.  You should include skills and competencies gained from previous employment or education. This should be specific to the job description.  Also, please include details of two referees, one referee at least from your current role, who we may contact if invited for interview.

We enjoy reading cover letters and these are an important part of the application. In the letter, connect your past accomplishments with the requirements listed in the job description. Focus on your most relevant experience, qualifications, and skills. Where possible, quantify your accomplishments with facts and data.

 Useful links

* [How to write a flawless cover letter](https://career-advice.jobs.ac.uk/cv-and-cover-letter-advice/how-to-write-a-flawless-cover-letter-in-2020/) (please right click and select open in new tab)
* [How to write a CV](https://www.reed.co.uk/career-advice/how-to-write-a-cv/) (please right click and select open in new tab)

