

# • PDRA Monitoring of Plankton using AI Technology

- Location: SAMS site, Dunbeg, near Oban
- Hours of work: 37 per week

Salary range: Grade 5 £32,546- £33,482pa

Contract type: Fixed Term : 2 years

## Company

The Scottish Association for Marine Science is an equal opportunity employer; we welcome applications from people with disabilities. We value the diversity of the people we hire and serve.

Diversity at SAMS means fostering a workplace in which individual differences are recognised, appreciated and respected, as well as responded to in ways that fully develop and utilise each person's talents and strengths.

## Job Description

- Your main responsibilities will be:

| <i>Responsibility Areas</i> | <i>Approx.<br/>%<br/>of time</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|

| Provide support for commissioning and operation of the Acclimatise project IFCB based at AFBI          | 10      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Maintain and develop image plankton classifiers                                                        | 30      |
| Maintain and develop IFCB data dashboard                                                               | 25      |
| Analyse trends in IFCB generated phytoplankton data in relation to associated environmental conditions | 20      |
| Provide training in IFCB hardware and software operation to other Acclimatise project staff            | 10      |
| Contribute to project reports, deliverables and publications                                           | 5       |
| Be proactive in the application of SAMS Health and Safety Procedures                                   | Ongoing |

## Requirements and Qualifications

- . PhD in relevant marine / environmental science / computing topic.

## Essential

- Experience with a web framework (e.g. Django, Flask, Laravel, Next.js) - this role specifically uses Django
- Familiarity with programming languages (e.g. Python, Bash)
- Linux systems administration
  - comfortable deploying and managing an application, setting up data pipelines

## Desirable

- Knowledge of phytoplankton ecology
- Experience in the operation of marine instrumentation
- Experience with databases (e.g. PostgreSQL, MySQL)
- Hands-on machine learning/AI experience training or fine-tuning image classification models (e.g. using PyTorch or similar)
- Experience with HPC or GPU-accelerated workloads
- Version control e.g. Git/GitHub

# How to Apply

Applications may be submitted by e-mail, handed in to our reception team or by postal mail no later than 12 October 2026

Interviews will be held shortly after.

(Job Ref No: D15/26.KD)

(Scottish Association for Marine Science)

(SAMS, Dunbeg, Oban, Argyll, PA37 1QA)

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([Vacancies — Scottish Association for Marine Science, Oban UK](#))

Attention: (SAMS HR team)