

Seaweed Farm Manager

Job Description

1. Job Details

Job Title:	Seaweed Farm Manager	Department:	Technical Support
Line Manager:	Senior Support Scientist – Sustainable Aquaculture & Ecology	Grade and salary range:	Grade 5 £32,546 - £36,130 per annum
Full Time/Part Time:	Full Time (37hrs per week)	Duration of Appointment:	2-year fixed term in the first instance.

2. Job Purpose

Act as the manager for the SAMS seaweed farm, including associated equipment and facilities ashore. Leading in (a) the proactive maintenance and support of the seaweed farm and (b) the safe operation, and compliance of the site and associated activities according to internal SAMS Policies and Standards as well as those of external regulatory bodies, e.g. FHI, Crown Estate Scotland.

Providing technical and practical support for farm-based experiments and working to deliver and develop SAMS Research and Enterprise projects that use the farm.

3. Main Responsibilities

<i>Description</i>	<i>Approx. % of time</i>
<p>Farm Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing practical maintenance work of the farm's physical infrastructure and coordination of internal and external parties' involvement • Undertaking work at sea as operationally required, from deployment of seaweed and shellfish, to growing and harvesting as appropriate • Accurate record keeping of inspection and maintenance activities, as well as monitoring data collected from cultivation sites • Liaison, and network development, with relevant external stakeholders and statutory licensing bodies e.g., FHI, Crown Estate Scotland etc, to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and standards • Continued development and improvement in farm Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) • Contribute farm requirements to relevant SAMS groups and strategies 	70

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a clear project management system for the farm based on continual improvement of methods and activities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to Research & Enterprise projects where required, principally through the application of practical or technical expertise 	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore, with other parties at SAMS, new opportunities both internal and external, for farm use and development 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be pro-active in the application of SAMS Health and Safety Procedures. 	Ongoing

4. Planning and Organising

- Organising a clear annual programme of work and monitoring activities for the seaweed farm to ensure appropriate resources are available and in place.
- Adjusting plans, prioritisation and re-organisation of work schedules around environmental constraints such as tides and weather, whilst understanding time limitations of cultivation cycles for successful seaweed cultivation at sea.
- Working with others to ensure SAMS meets its legal requirements linked to the licenses of both seaweed farms.
- Develop and maintain the standard operating procedures linked to the farms with support from the seaweed farm manager and other relevant staff.
- Ensure that appropriate licenses are held and maintained for SAMS seaweed farm activities.

5. Problem-Solving

- Maintenance/repair and troubleshooting of seaweed farm infrastructure, identifying opportunities for improvement and deployment.
- Organising sufficient stocks of scientific supplies and other consumables to support infrastructure work.

6. Decision-Making

- Assessing best approach for farm infrastructure design, implementing any required changes.
- Calculate the volume of consumables and equipment required for seaweed farm operations, working to a budget.

7. Key Contacts/Relationships

- Principal Investigators (PIs), PDRAs and support staff with research interests and involvement in seaweed farm operations.
- Liaising with SAMS Enterprise to discuss and develop commercial considerations.
- Representatives from Marine Scotland, Crown Estate Scotland and Argyll & Bute Council for regulation and licensing of activities.

8. Knowledge, Skills and Experience needed for the Job

- Ideally educated to BSc level in biology, mechanical engineering, environmental science or related discipline, or an equivalent level of work experience in a relevant technical role.
- Experience in deploying and maintaining aquaculture mooring infrastructure (e.g. mussel long lines or similar), with practical hands-on experience in handling lines and troubleshooting problems in the field.
- Experience of seaweed farming.
- Experience in working at sea from small boats (RHIBs).
- Commercially endorsed small vessel skipper qualification is desirable; such as RYA Advanced Powerboat Certificate of Competence, or RYA Yachtmaster Coastal Certificate of Competence, although training will be offered if candidate does not currently hold qualification.
- Good data recording and record keeping.
- Good computing skills in all standard Microsoft office software packages.
- Experience or willingness to engage with licensing processes for the seaweed farm.
- Proactive approach and ability to work independently.

9. Dimensions – Scope of role

- Provide support to Research & Enterprise in delivering cultivated seaweed material on annual cycles.
- To take a lead in maintaining, improving and developing seaweed farm infrastructure.
- Responsible for the safe running of at sea operations at SAMS seaweed farm.
- Responsible for ensuring adequate regulatory checks are undertaken and paperwork completed in a timely manner to retain seaweed farm licenses.
- Provide support to Seaweed Nursery Manager in the cultivation of seaweed material prior to deployment at farm site.

10. Any other relevant information

The post will be funded for 2 years initially. The post will be reviewed at the end of the 2 years to establish future requirements and funding available.

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.