

# Senior Marine Environmental Consultant – Marine Mammals

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

Salary range: Grade 6 £38,249-£42,882 pa

Grade 7 £45,413-£51,039 pa

Contract type: Fixed Term 24 months

## 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

This role is to provide environmental consultancy leadership within the SAMS Enterprise delivery team, specifically within the Marine Energy core strategic area. Responsibilities have three main areas of focus: 1) Lead **technical development** of products and services for commercial work in Marine Mammals consultancy, advising and working with SAMS Enterprise Senior Management Team and Strategic Working Groups to improve, resource and deliver to

market needs; 2) **Technical delivery:** implementation of state-of-the-art acoustic automated processing, database management and data visualisation, and 3) **income generation**, working with the business development team to develop and realise new opportunities in this sector.

This is a key high level technical position to develop and deliver high quality consultancy services to industry and regulators, ensuring projects are delivered effectively to time, cost and quality as per the agreed contractual requirements and to the ISO9001 standard.

This is an entry-level position reporting to a Project Manager.

<i>Responsibility Areas</i>	<i>Approx. % of time</i>
<p><b>Consultancy and commercial delivery:</b></p> <p><b>Technical Development:</b> Lead technical development of products and services for commercial work in Marine Mammals core area, advising and working with SAMS Enterprise Senior Management Team, Strategic Working Groups to improve, resource and deliver to market needs.</p> <p><b>Technical Delivery:</b> implementation of state-of-the-art acoustic automated</p>	65

processing, database management and data visualisation;

- implement recent technological development into data collection, specifically in more offshore and understudied regions;
- develop study designs and carry out acoustic data collection fieldwork;
- analysis of acoustic data, specifically: characterisation of anthropogenic activities, ambient noise reporting, detection and classification of marine mammal vocalisations;
- implementation of statistical modelling in relation to impact assessment of anthropogenic activities;
- develop and implement methods leading to densities/abundances from acoustic data;

Act as lead editor/author on multi-disciplinary technical assessments/reports, including drawing together multidisciplinary elements into a single overview report. Plan and write scientific reports, papers and if applicable policy briefs.

<p><b>Income generation:</b> Engage proactively in <b>Business development</b> supporting the Business Development Manager to generate new leads and opportunities, resulting in new sales and customers. May account manage key customers if requested.</p> <p>Work with Proposals Manager to provide technical input to <b>Tenders/proposals</b> including methodology, pricing and planning aspects, ensuring that SAMS have the capability and capacity to undertake the customers' requirements.</p>	30
<p><b>Quality Assurance:</b> Active involvement within quality management in the SAMS delivery team to ensure compliance with ISO9001 standard, including production of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).</p>	5
<p>Be pro-active in the application of SAMS Health and Safety Procedures.</p>	Ongoing

# Requirements and Qualifications

## **Qualification and knowledge**

- PhD or Master's degree with focus on marine mammals, bioacoustics and/or species distribution modelling (essential).
- Ability to analyse complex temporal and spatial, visual/acoustic datasets (essential).
- Evidence of scientific publications and experience sharing knowledge in reports, workshops and at conferences (essential).

- Technical knowledge and expertise in assessing impacts to marine megafauna from industrial sectors such as marine energy, fisheries or aquaculture (essential).
- Technical knowledge and demonstrated practical experience undertaking EIA/HRA impact assessments (desirable).
- Remain current with regulatory requirements regarding species protection, industry needs, and academic progress to develop and deliver high-quality projects (essential).

- Write high-quality reports for commercial customers (essential).
- Expertise in acoustic data analysis for marine mammals (e.g., PAMGuard, C POD/F-POD.exe) and underwater sound (e.g., PAMGuide, MATLAB, MANTA) (essential).
- Expertise using standard programming languages (e.g., R, Python, MATLAB) and GIS software (e.g., QGIS) (essential).
- Statistical analysis experience for various data types and long-term data sets (essential).

- Experience with species distribution/habitat and population impact modelling (e.g. GAMs, BRTs, iPCoD, DEPONS etc.; desirable).
- Expertise in acoustic data analysis using other acoustic analysis software (e.g., Raven, AviSoft) (desirable).
- Experience with analysis of photo-ID data (desirable).
- Experience with data quality control and data validation processes (desirable).

## **Generic skills:**

- Excellent written and oral communication skills, with the ability to explain scientific concepts to a varied audience, including disseminating results of scientific research (e.g. through writing scientific papers, giving presentations at workshops, conferences etc.) as well as writing reports for regulatory agencies to a high scientific and professional standard.

## How to Apply

Applications may be submitted by e-mail, handed in to our reception team or by postal mail no later than 15<sup>th</sup> June 2026

(Job Ref No: SE03/26.MH)

(Scottish Association for Marine Science)

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

(01631 559000)

(recruitment@sams.ac.uk)

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

Attention: (SAMS HR team)