

Job Description: INSHORE FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION OFFICER (SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION)

Job Title:	Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officer (Science and Conservation)
Location:	Ramsgate, Kent
Grade:	KEIFCA2 (SCP 14-20) - £32,494 to £35,856 incl anti-social allowance
Responsible to:	Principal Science and Conservation Officer

Purpose of the Job:

Kent & Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) is a regulatory body responsible for the sustainable management of inshore fisheries and the conservation of the marine environment along the coasts of Kent and Essex. The vision of KEIFCA is to lead, champion and manage a sustainable marine environment and inshore fisheries, by successfully securing the right balance between social, environmental and economic benefits to ensure healthy seas, sustainable fisheries and a viable industry.

The role supports the management and conservation of inshore fisheries within the Kent and Essex coastal areas. It involves a combination of survey planning and execution, data recording and analysis, conservation efforts and stakeholder liaison. The role covers duties both at sea and on land, working as part of a small team on a survey/patrol vessel as a member of the crew, undertaking boarding operations of fishing vessels and undertaking shore-based enforcement of fisheries legislation, as well as assisting with surveys and project work. These duties would be carried out across both Kent and Essex, as well as occasionally outside the District.

Main duties and responsibilities:

1. To support and assist in the planning and undertaking of stock surveys, habitat assessments and research projects, both subtidal and intertidal as required within the Strategic Evidence Plan.
2. To assist in compiling survey reports and research projects, set up spreadsheets and work with databases, data entry and analysis, work with GIS data and outputs and draw conclusions.

3. To assist with the development and implementation of byelaws and other management measures in the District including byelaw impact assessments and Habitat Regulations Assessments
4. To respond to consultations and prepare correspondence.
5. Be the main point of contact for the KEIFCA concerning marine planning and marine licensing.
6. Monitor compliance with fisheries regulations, enforce fishing and conservation legislation, and conduct inspections on vessels, gear, and catch to ensure adherence. This will involve both sea-based and shore-based inspections.
7. To undertake the duties of crew on the Authority's Fisheries Patrol/Survey Vessels, take part in the boarding of fishing vessels at sea.
8. To liaise with the fishing industry and other key stakeholders, regarding fisheries/ conservation management and associated issues and, where necessary, write reports regarding the outcome of consultations.
9. To attend meetings with other bodies as a representative of the Chief IFC Officer or Authority.
10. Undertake such tasks that the Chief IFC Officer or Authority may require.

Potential for progression:

A 'Senior IFCO' role sits above the entry-level 'IFCO' post. All IFCO-level posts have the ability to progress to this Senior level, however this progression is contingent on meeting requirements and passing an internal oral assessment. The requirements include:

1. Completion of IFCA Environment Officers Course (or other equivalent)
2. Passing RYA Advanced Powerboat
3. Development of a portfolio which evidences the officers experience in:
 - Writing Habitats Regulations Assessments and MCZ assessments
 - Writing Regulatory Impact Assessments
 - Leading surveys
 - Writing and delivering reports to the Authority
 - Leading, overseeing and delivering complex projects
 - Taking part in a variety of fisheries inspections ashore and at sea
 - Utilising GIS software and data processing using R and database software
 - Delivery of work outside of your role

Person Specification: Inshore Fisheries and Conservation officer (Science and Conservation)

CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Qualifications	Undergraduate degree (e.g. BA, BSc) in relevant subject or equivalent experience Current Full UK Driving License	RYA Level 2 Powerboat Relevant marine qualifications to include (but not limited to) VHF Radio, STCW 95).
Experience	Experience working on board a vessel other than as a member of crew Experience of taking part in surveys in the marine environment Experience of Marine Protected Area legislation and its practical application Experience of writing Regulatory Impact Assessments Experience of working as part of a team Experience of handling confrontational situations Experience in working with and managing members of the public Experience in writing reports Experience of data entry and analysis	Experience as crew on a seagoing vessel Experience of enforcement of legislation or regulations Experience in sea fisheries or resource management Experience in preparing and giving presentations Experience in data processing using R and database software Experience of utilising GIS software for spatial data analysis Experience of managing small teams to deliver one-off or stand-alone tasks
Knowledge	Knowledge of fisheries management Knowledge of the fishing industry Knowledge of fishing techniques Knowledge of marine protected areas and marine conservation issues	Knowledge of marine issues, fishing industry. Knowledge of seamanship Knowledge of enforcement of conservation regulations Knowledge of Kent & Essex district
Personal Skills and Attributes	Excellent organisational skills and an ability to prioritise work effectively. IT literate with good level of competence in operating MS Office including Excel Ability to communicate at all levels. Methodical, flexible, self-motivated and discrete. Physically fit - needs to pass Seaman's medical (ENG 1). Flexible attitude to working routine as well as regular weekend and unsociable hours as required. Workload is dictated according to schedules and timing (tides etc.)	Project management skills Advanced IT/GIS skills