

## Marine Institute Job Description

<b>Position</b>	<b>Scientific and Technical Officer – Tagging &amp; Telemetry, MOSAIC</b>
<b>Grade &amp; Contract</b>	<b>Scientific Technical Officer (STO) Grade. Temporary Specified Purpose Contract up to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2029.</b>
<b>Service Group</b>	<b>Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS)</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Marine Institute, Furnace, Newport, Co Mayo, Ireland (The Marine Institute has a Blended Working Policy in Place)</b>

### Who will you Work with and What Will the Role Involve?

The MOSAIC project (funded by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body) represents a multidisciplinary consortium of leading academic and governmental scientists from across the Island of Ireland and Scotland and is supported by trusted international partners. MOSAIC will establish an ambitious interregional, multi-purpose marine observation network, linking oceanography to biodiversity, using innovative sensor technologies and toolkits. Data will be gathered on protected species and their habitats and will produce forward-looking indicators to underpin conservation efforts in an ever-changing ocean.

This is an exciting role that will contribute to closing critical knowledge gaps in marine species connectivity and habitat-use, build an integrated conservation framework across jurisdictions and advance actionable strategies for restoring vulnerable marine populations in a rapidly changing climate.

The Scientific and Technical Officer (STO) will be an integral part of the MOSAIC team, with primary responsibility for the tagging and telemetry element of the project within Irish waters. This will include participation in relevant steering groups and development of the experimental design. The STO will work closely with the Team Lead based in Newport, who is acting as principal investigator for the Marine Institute. The STO will be expected to work at a high standard, coordinating practical elements of the project as well as collecting and organising the data, ready for further analysis. The STO will liaise with other Marine Institute MOSAIC team members and external partners to achieve the goals outlined by the Team Lead and MOSAIC project manager.

The Marine Institute is currently undertaking a review of organisation structure, which when complete may impact the roles and duties of employees and bring about change. Any impacts or changes will be communicated.

## What Will You Be Doing Every Day?

### Principal Tasks:

#### Species monitoring and telemetry network

- Coordinate and participate in field work to deploy pop-up archival satellite tags (PSATs) and acoustic tags on elasmobranch species following SOPs.
- Conduct biological sampling (tissue, ultrasound, etc) for tagged species to support ecological studies.
- Design, construct, deploy and maintain telemetry networks for long-term species tracking at strategic marine locations.
- Assist in the design of deployment of autonomous underwater vehicles and glider-based missions to offshore locations to continue species and environmental monitoring.

#### Data collection and integration

- Collect and manage data from acoustic detections, satellite tracking, biological sampling and environmental sensors.
- Follow protocol on Quality Control of data and work closely with the data management team.
- Curate a database consistent with FAIR principles as per the agreed template set out by the project leads.

#### Spatial ecology and movement analysis

- Conduct preliminary analysis of detection data, explain findings and produce visualisations to interpret data.
- Coordinate with oceanographic STO to integrate preliminary environmental parameters into analysis.
- Map movement tracks and create animations for dissemination.

#### Stakeholder engagement and communication

- Facilitate collaboration between research partners to optimise methodologies.
- Ensure compliance with licensing and permit requirements.
- Engage with NGOs, maritime users and the public to communicate about the project.
- Attend all relevant meetings and maintain a good working relationship with all partners.
- Report back to the MI MOSAIC team on a regular basis.

#### Reporting and dissemination

- Produce written reports to disseminate preliminary analysis.
- Present findings to the Marine Institute and external partners.
- Attend scientific conferences and project symposiums to present work.

## What do You Need to Have Done to apply for this role?

(Education, Professional or Technical Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills, Aptitudes, Experience and Training)

### Essential / Important:

- A relevant third-level degree in a marine science, ecology, or related field, with at least one year of work experience in a relevant scientific area.

- Strong data handling and data analysis skills, including spatial data (to include R, and/or ArcGIS).
- High level of experience in the use of Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- Proven Scientific Report Writing Skills.
- Effective organisation and administration skills.
- Good time management and the ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
- The ability to work unsupervised and as part of a team.
- Ability to communicate with different stakeholders diplomatically and effectively.
- Good written and verbal communication skills in addition to effective numeracy skills.
- Sea-going experience or sufficiently fit to pass an ENG II Medical.
- Willingness to travel and be on a boat at sea.

#### Ideally Nice to Have / Desirable:

- Knowledge of tagging and telemetry, and some practical application of these.
- Knowledge of protected elasmobranch species found along Irish coasts.
- Hold a certificate for the LAST-Ireland training on the 3Rs and associated ethics.
- Fisheries research experience and aptitude for the use of statistical packages such as R and GIS.
- Publication Record.
- Power boat handling experience.
- Full Irish Driving licence.

#### What else do you need to know?

##### (Special personal attributes required for the role)

This is an exciting opportunity to work in a new, dynamic team supporting the innovation of technologies to monitor protected species.

You should be:

- Dynamic and reliable.
- Able to work in an organised manner and progress work independently.
- Ability to meet multiple deadlines.
- Self-sufficient while being a good team player.
- Able to collaborate with scientists and members of a technical team.
- Willing to learn and apply new methods, approaches and knowledge.

#### Description of Service Group: Fisheries Ecosystem Advisory Services – The Wider Team

Currently, FEAS consists of over 100 scientific, technical, postgraduate and administrative staff under the directorship of Dr Ciaran Kelly. The Service group operates a significant part of their services from the Marine Institute headquarters in Oranmore, Co. Galway with additional port-based facilities and a [research facility at Newport](#), Co. Mayo and Cashel, Co. Galway. The mission of FEAS is “to research, assess and advise on the sustainable use of marine fisheries resources”.

FEAS provide integrated advice and scientific support for the Irish government (principally the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine [DAFM](#)) on marine fisheries ecosystems-related issues. A key output of FEAS is the annual [Stock Book and the annual Shellfisheries Stock Book](#). These provide the latest assessments and scientific advice for the resources exploited by Irish vessels and is a key reference for the Government's sustainability assessment presented annually to the Oireachtas. FEAS experts also provide scientific services and support to other government departments, including the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage ([DHLGH](#)), to address the Marine Strategy

Framework Directive ([MFSD](#)) requirements through [OSPAR](#) and national reporting under an SLA ([service level agreement](#)). FEAS provide scientific services to the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications ([DECC](#)) related to offshore renewable energy development.

FEAS experts actively participate in many meetings of the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas ([ICES](#)). At ICES our scientists are focused on advancing scientific understanding of marine ecosystems, providing information, knowledge and advice on the sustainable management of human activities affecting and affected by marine ecosystems. ICES is a key forum for scientific coordination of data collection and the provision of independent scientific advice. FEAS scientists are also encouraged to publish much of their work in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

FEAS experts also participate in other international fora, including [STECF](#) (Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries), [ICCAT](#) (International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas), [NEAFC](#) (North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) and [NASCO](#) (North Atlantic Salmon Commission). FEAS provide scientific support for DAFM at various EU meetings (e.g. the EU Norway Agreements and the EU Council of Fisheries Ministers).

FEAS experts also carry out research and stock assessments on diadromous fish species (salmonids and eels) and are responsible for the salmon National Coded Wire Tagging and Tag Recovery programme and working closely with [IFI](#) (Inland Fisheries Ireland) on the Standing Scientific Committees for salmon and eel. In recent years, FEAS has developed a core expertise in oceanic tracking of large marine fish. The FEAS Aquaculture Section is responsible for the operation of the National Sea Lice Monitoring Programme and carries out a range of national and internationally funded research projects based at MI facilities.

Further details can be found on the Marine Institute website:

<https://www.marine.ie/site-area/areas-activity/fisheries-ecosystems/fisheries-ecosystems>

<https://www.marine.ie/site-area/areas-activity/aquaculture/aquaculture>

### Who Will You Report to / Who will Manage and Support You?:

The successful candidate will be based at the Marine Institute Newport and will report directly to the Team Lead for Tagging and Telemetry or their authorised official.

### What we offer

We value our staff, and we value their contribution to the work of the Marine Institute. In return for this, we provide benefits that promote a healthy work-life balance and which we hope will help them to develop professionally. These include personal and career development, work/life balance policies, an employee assistance programme, “Bike to Work” Scheme, staff medicals and annual flu vaccination.

### Training

A full range of training will be provided as required, on the job and through appropriate courses. Training needs will be identified through the MI Performance Management Development System (PMDS).

### Contacts:

**Within the Marine Institute:** Section Manager, Team Lead Newport. Wider MOSAIC MI team, postdoctoral researcher based in Newport on fine-scale data analysis, data management and oceanography based in Oranmore.

**Outside the Marine Institute:** Partners to MOSAIC project led by Loughs Agency. European Tracking Network, NGOs, and maritime users.

### Salary:

Remuneration is in accordance with the Public Sector, Department of Public Expenditure / Department of Finance approved Salary Scale as at August 2025 for a Scientific Technical Officer, a scale that starts at €39,474 – €79,618 per annum pro-rated with time worked. You will commence on the first point of the salary scale and become a member of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme unless you are currently or have worked in the Public Sector in the past 6 months or are a member of another Public Sector Scheme

### Annual Leave:

Annual leave entitlement for a Scientific Technical Officer is 25 working days per annum pro-rated to reflect time worked. Annual leave entitlements are exclusive of Public Holidays. All leave must be approved in advance in line with Marine Institute leave policies, by your manager or their authorised representative.

### Duration of Contract:

This post will be filled on a temporary Specified Purpose basis of a maximum duration of 36 months from commencement. It is currently envisaged that the project will be complete before 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2029, subject to funding. The successful candidate will be on probation for the first six months.

### Who is the Marine Institute?

The Marine Institute is a non-commercial semi-state body, which was formally established by statute (Marine Institute Act, 1991) in October 1992.

Under the Act, the Marine Institute was given the responsibility:

*“to undertake, to co-ordinate, to promote and to assist in marine research and development and to provide such services related to marine research and development, that in the opinion of the Institute will promote economic development and create employment and protect the marine environment”.*

The Marine Institute is the national agency responsible for marine research, technology, development and innovation (RTDI). The Marine Institute seeks to assess and realise the economic

potential of Ireland's 220-million-acre marine resource; promote the sustainable development of marine industry through strategic funding programmes and scientific services; and safeguard the marine environment through research and environmental monitoring. The Institute works in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) and a network of other Government Departments, semi-state agencies, national and international marine partners.

***Our vision - The Marine Institute, as a global leader in ocean knowledge, empowering Ireland and its people to safeguard and harness ocean wealth.***

***Our Mission - The Marine Institute, provides government, public agencies and the maritime industry with a range of scientific, advisory and economic development services that inform policy-making, regulation and the sustainable management and growth of Ireland's marine resources. The Institute undertakes, coordinates and promotes marine research and development, which is essential to achieving a sustainable ocean economy, protecting ecosystems and inspiring a shared understanding of the ocean.***

In order to achieve this vision, the MI have six service areas; (1) Ocean, Climate and Information Services, (2) Marine Environment & Food Safety Services, (3) Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services, (4) Irish Maritime Development Office, (5) *Policy, Innovation and Research Services* and (6) Corporate Services.

The Marine Institute 5 Year Strategic Plan (2023 to 2027) is available [Here](#)

#### How to Apply:

A C.V. and letter of application, summarising experience and skill set applicable to the position should be emailed to [recruitment@marine.ie](mailto:recruitment@marine.ie) or posted to Human Resources at the Marine Institute, Rinville, Oranmore, Galway. All correspondence for this post should quote reference **FEAS/STO/MOSAIC/JAN26**

#### Closing date for Applications:

All applications for this post should be received by the Marine Institute in advance of **12 noon Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2026**. Unfortunately, late applications cannot be accepted.

**Use of Data** - all personal data and the information submitted for this application will be used solely for the purpose of this campaign, after which it will be deleted in line with our General Data Protection Regulation Policy and data retention schedule. All information will be treated with the strictest confidence and accessed only by those involved directly in the campaign.

**The Marine Institute is an organisation that champions Diversity, Inclusion & Equality for all. We encourage and welcome applications from anyone interested in this role.**

**Please do advise if there are any special accommodations required for the recruitment process.**

**We are here to help you access opportunities with us.**