

Post-doctoral position: developing marine IBAs in South Africa

Salary: R100,000

Start date: 1 April 2010 (or as soon as possible thereafter)

The Percy FitzPatrick Institute (PFI), in collaboration with BirdLife South Africa, has a 12-month post-doctoral position available starting 2010, working on seabird foraging ranges and establishing marine Important Bird Areas in South Africa.

Research will be conducted under supervision of Prof Peter Ryan (PFI) and Dr Ross Wanless (BirdLife South Africa). The successful applicant will be required to establish collaborations with data owners, and collate numerous datasets on seabird foraging ranges, tracking and other distributional data. High-seas and pelagic Marine Protected Areas is a research field of particular interest and is undergoing conceptual development: this position holds great potential for the suitable candidate to help develop criteria for defining and managing MPAs, using BirdLife International's marine IBA criteria as a test case.

Requirements

Obtained a PhD in the past 5 years

Strong interest and research history in seabirds

Familiarity with seabird tracking and distributional data

Expertise in GIS spatial analyses

Be based primarily at the Percy FitzPatrick Institute in Cape Town

Highly desirable

Familiarity with seabird research in South Africa

Ability to establish collaborations

Ability to work independently but communicate effectively with multiple stakeholders

Please send a 500-word letter of motivation, concise curriculum vitae including list of publications, and the names of three contactable references to Hilary Buchanan (email hilary.buchanan@uct.ac.za).

Closing date for applications: 21 February 2010. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Candidates who have not been contacted by 28 February should assume their applications were not successful.

