
Marine Mammal Internships & Research Opportunities in the Aegean Sea

Job description

We are excited to announce internship opportunities in marine mammal research. Students, recent graduates and scientists can join Archipelagos' research and conservation efforts in Eastern Aegean.

Archipelagos Institute of Marine Conservation is a Greek non-profit, non-governmental organization committed to researching and defending the rich biodiversity of the Greek seas and islands, as well as of the NE Mediterranean region overall. This region of rare biodiversity is in desperate need of protection as is being increasingly threatened by harmful anthropogenic activities!

The Eastern Aegean region is home of many rare and endangered species, including some of the **most important remaining populations** in the Mediterranean of several marine mammals. Research surveys can focus on:

- Dolphin populations, including: *D. delphis* (common dolphin), *T. truncatus* (bottlenose dolphin), *S. coeruleoalba* (striped dolphin) and *G. griseus* (Risso's dolphin);
- Whale populations, including: *P. macrocephalus* (sperm whale), *Ziphius cavirostris* (Cuvier's beaked whale) and occasional visitors *B. physalus* (fin whale);
- The Mediterranean monk seal (*M. monachus*), an important and critically endangered marine mammal species found in the region.

Aims

- Efficient conservation of the marine mammal populations from anthropogenic threats
- Monitoring of habitat use, abundance and distribution
- Study of population structure and dynamics
- Study of behavioural ecology & communication
- Study of factors of impact (with a focus on interactions with fisheries).

Responsibilities:

- Boat-based surveys (weather dependent)
- Photo-identification and matching techniques
- Collecting environmental and anthropogenic data
- Gathering acoustic data
- Data entry and analysis
- Raising awareness
- Utilizing ArcGIS to map populations

- Questionnaire-based surveys
- First aid of stranded animals (e.g., cetaceans, seals and sea turtles)

Other internship/ research topics:

Marine/ Fisheries Research & Management

Research & Conservation of Island Flora and Fauna

GIS Mapping of Biodiversity

Laboratory Assessment of Environmental Impacts

Illustration, Graphic & Animation Design

Environmental Photography & Film Production

Environmental Education,

Placement details:

Duration: 3-12 months (shorter duration is consider on a case-by-case basis)

Location: Archipelagos' research bases and stations in the eastern Aegean Sea (Samos, Lipsi, Ikaria, Arki, Marathi islands). Placements may also include working on board one of the two small research boats.

Costs: Placement fee of 650euros/month

Covers: accommodation, full board and all placement costs.

(frequently placement fee and travel etc expenses are covered by grants such as Erasmus+, or other equivalent)

Extras: Participants have the option to obtain (at no further cost):

- Sailing certificate
- PADI Open Water scuba diving certification – seasonally available, excluding PADI fees
- Greek language lessons

For further information you can contact admissions@archipelago.gr

We hope to see you in the Aegean islands!

Person requirements

Essential requirements:

- Commit to a minimum duration of 3 months
- Minimum of 18 years of age or older
- Willingness to work hard and have a genuine interest in marine research

- Background in Biology, Marine Biology, Zoology, Environmental Sciences, Geosciences, Oceanography or related field
 - Must be able to spend many hours on the boat. Field days might exceed eight hours and occur at least two or three times a week (weather dependent)
 - Basic computer proficiency in Microsoft Office programs
 - Excellent verbal and written communication skills
 - Fluent in English
 - Must be able to work efficiently individually and as part of a team
 - Enthusiastic, responsible, diligent, detail oriented and flexible
 - Prior field research experience preferred, but not required
-

Apply email address

admissions@archipelago.gr