



Call for Applications - Seasonal Consultant

Title: Marine Naturalist, Stewards of Nature (Seasonal Consultant)
Division: Marine Conservation Program
Reports to: Executive Director, Marine Conservation; Program Officer, Marine Conservation
Based in: French Polynesia
Term: June-August 2018, December-January 2019 (see schedule below)

BACKGROUND

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) saves wildlife and wild places worldwide through science, conservation action, education, and inspiring people to value nature. In addition to its global conservation programs across 60 countries, WCS manages five zoos, including the Bronx Zoo, and the New York Aquarium. WCS's Marine Conservation Program works in over 20 countries and all five oceans to protect key marine habitats and marine wildlife, to inspire an ocean constituency, to end overfishing, and to protect key species groups, including marine mammals, sharks and rays, and corals, as well as to inspire an ocean constituency.

In 2018, WCS will bring educational programming and scientific lectures onboard the *m/s Paul Gauguin*, a luxury cruise ship in French Polynesia, in partnership with Paul Gauguin Cruises (PGC). Stewards of Nature (SON) is an environmental educational program onboard and ashore for children and teens (ages 7-17) and their family members. SON will engage and encourage youth and families to discover and value nature through hands-on, interactive learning, connect passengers to the environment, and foster stewardship of the oceans through education.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the Marine Naturalist will be to co-lead the SON program and teach children and families about the oceans, science, nature, conservation and Polynesian culture onboard the *m/s Paul Gauguin* during select summer and holiday sailings in 2018. WCS will enter into a Services Agreement (consultancy) with a passionate individual, with a strong interest and experience in education, to implement the SON curriculum, teach children and families in interactive and fun ways about marine wildlife and habitats, lead games and activities, coordinate with a diverse group of people, and connect with local experts and conservation practitioners.

ACTIVITIES/TASKS/DELIVERABLES

1. Co-lead Stewards of Nature program onboard the *m/s Paul Gauguin* in French Polynesia, teaching children and teens (ages 7-17) and their families about wildlife, wild places, conservation science, and people in nature on seven (7) summer (June-August) and two (2) winter (December-January) sailings.
2. Engage diverse group of participants in daytime and evening activities such as, but not limited to, team-building activities and games, scientific inquiry, outdoor excursions (snorkeling, walks, visits to cultural sites, etc.), arts and crafts, and hands-on learning.

3. Work alongside co-leader to flexibly adapt activities and curriculum to ages and interests of the groups, as needed and as appropriate. Update and help develop program materials and schedule as needed, in coordination with PGC and WCS staff.
4. Coordinate with PGC staff onboard, including Cruise Director, Travel Concierge Manager, Hotel Director and others to organize program schedule and logistics, and activities on and off the ship.
5. Organize, in coordination with PGC and WCS staff, the purchase and transport of any materials and supplies needed for program, maintain storage and use of materials and supplies on the ship.
6. Maintain line of communication with WCS staff in New York and provide biweekly written updates on the program during and following each sailing; check in regularly with key PGC staff onboard, as needed.
7. Complete written Summer and Winter Sailing Reports following the last sailing in the summer and winter. WCS will provide a template to complete.

CONSULTANT EXPERIENCE AND PROFILE

- Bachelor's degree, preferably in marine biology/environmental science or similar, or teaching and education. Teaching certification a plus. Camp counselor experience desirable.
- 1-2 years experience working with children and/or experience developing and implementing educational programs for youth in schools, camps, zoos, aquaria, marine vessels, or other settings. Experience in scientific inquiry and leading hands-on activities a plus.
- Knowledge of global conservation issues – preferably ocean conservation – and a strong understanding of the Wildlife Conservation Society's mission, vision, and conservation action.
- Knowledge of marine ecology and biology preferred; knowledge of the South Pacific and French Polynesian species a plus. If not already knowledgeable about French Polynesian environment and culture, willingness and interest in learning.
- Team player and proven ability to work well with people from diverse cultures and backgrounds.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability to work independently, with minimal supervision.
- Willingness to work flexible hours and consecutive days, with minimal time off during the sailing schedules (see below).
- Sense of adventure and interest in traveling, cruising, and learning other languages and cultures.
- Prior boating/sailing experience (i.e. time on the water, onboard a ship/vessel) is preferred.
- Proactive and good problem-solver.
- Native English speaker required. Conversational French highly preferred.
- First Aid certification preferred.
- Snorkeling experience required. SCUBA certification required.
- Passport required, plus any applicable visas or other documentation as required; passport must be valid for at least six months after the return date of travel.

COMPENSATION

WCS will pay the Marine Naturalist a fixed fee for all services provided under the full term of this consultancy. Payments to the consultants will be made without deductions for income taxes or social security and no benefits will be provided. A 1099 form will be provided.

Travel expenses (transportation, meals and accommodations) related to the Marine Naturalist training, up to USD \$200, will be covered. All travel related expenses (airfare, ground transportation and meals) to and from French Polynesia, and room and board for all sailings, are included. Room and board accommodations include one double-occupancy room that will be shared by both Marine Naturalists. Onboard (or off-ship as necessary) amenities include three meals per day and complimentary beverages, First Aid and emergency medical services, onboard fitness center, onboard business center and library. SON uniforms will be provided and should be worn during all sailings.

AGREEMENT DURATION

Full term of consultancy: June 2018 - August 2018; December 2018 - January 2019; exact dates indicated below. The Naturalists will be required to work all sailing dates, in addition to two (2) days of training prior to the summer sailings and six (6) days of travel in total.

Training at WCS Headquarters

End of May for two (2) days (dates TBD)

Summer

Travel to Tahiti and PGC Training: June 2 – June 6, 2018 (onboard m/s *Paul Gauguin*)

Sailing 1 (Society Islands & Tuamotus, 10-nights): June 6-16, 2018

Sailing 2 (Tahiti & Society Islands, 7-nights) June 16-23, 2018

Sailing 3 (Tahiti & Society Islands, 7-nights) June 23-30, 2018

Sailing 4 (Society Islands & Tahiti Iti, 7-nights) June 30-July 7, 2018

Sailing 5 (Cook Islands & Society Islands, 11-nights): July 7-July 18, 2018

Sailing 6 (Society Islands & Tuamotus, 10-nights): July 18-July 28, 2018

Sailing 7 (Tahiti & Society Islands, 7-nights) July 28-August 4, 2018

Return travel from Tahiti: August 4-5, 2018

Winter

Travel to Tahiti: December 21 – December 22, 2018 (onboard m/s *Paul Gauguin*)

Sailing 8 (Tahiti & Society Islands, 7-nights): December 22-29, 2018

Sailing 9 (Tahiti & Society Islands, 7-nights): December 29, 2018-January 5, 2019

Return travel from Tahiti: January 5-6, 2019

Please note the following: Should PGC reserve m/s *Paul Gauguin* for a private charter during any of the sailings listed above, WCS will provide at least 60 days' written notice to the Naturalist. WCS and PGC will use their best reasonable efforts to reschedule the SON session and staff to other sailing dates in 2018, to be determined separately. In the event that it is not possible to reschedule, the Naturalist will be relieved of his/her responsibilities with respect to the session for that scheduled sailing.

For more information about the WCS + PGC partnership and the SON program, please visit www.pgcruses.com/WCS-Family. For more information about the WCS Marine Program, visit www.wcs.org/Marine.

TO APPLY

To express your interest for this position, please email your CV and cover letter to marineprogram@wcs.org. Please use the subject line: WCS Naturalist - [your name]. Applications received prior to **February 16, 2018** will receive priority, but applications will be accepted until the position is filled. If selected, please note that a background check will be conducted.