



preserving the marine environment through research, public awareness and education

Guidelines for application

To apply for the following:

1. Field Research Assistant
2. BSc, MSc
3. Participants.

1. Field Research Assistant

Call for Field Research Assistant opens from November 1st to January 31st. Due to the large number of requests, we kindly ask you not to send any applications outside of this period, since they will not be considered.

General considerations before submitting an application:

- Field Research Assistants are not given a salary, but room & board may be covered depending on the project's budget.
- Applicants are expected to cover their own travel expenses to/from our field base.
- Beverages/food occasionally consumed outside of the project's premises, in local bars and restaurants, are not covered by Tethys.
- An applicant for Field Research Assistant with Tethys is expected to fulfil the following basic requisites:
 - be able to commit for a minimum of four weeks;
 - have a fair knowledge of English;
 - be enthusiastic, hard-working, team oriented, and have a positive attitude;
 - be adaptable, flexible and patient as fieldwork is often dependent on weather and other logistic constraints;

- have a genuine interest in pursuing studies in marine ecology and/or conservation (a background in biology or ecology does help);
- be prepared to wake up early in the morning and work long hours;
- have basic computer skills and knowledge of the most widespread software packages;
- A valid car driving license and being capable to drive a (non-automatic) medium-sized car is highly desirable.

If interested in becoming a **Field Research Assistant** with Tethys, send the following two items to tethys@tethys.org:

- A short **motivation letter** describing your interests and skills; those that you think make you the best possible candidate for this position. Tell us about you. Why do you want to join this particular project? What do you expect to gain with this experience? Why we should choose you?
- Your **CV** tailored to the project you are applying for.

Please, rename your **motivation letter** and **CV** as:

- Surname_Name_Motivation_Letter /CV_date (as yyyyymmdd)

Please, when sending the application documents, be sure to activate a “request read receipt”.

2. BSc, MSc

Normally, Tethys is reluctant to commit with a BSc or MSc student, unless both sides (student and Tethys) have already had the chance to collaborate and work in the field. This is important for the student to get familiar with our organization, staff and the project/s in which their thesis may be developed, as well as for Tethys to get to know and test the candidate’s motivation, skills and capabilities while working with us in the field.

- Therefore, be aware that prior collaboration and/or field work in one of the

Tethys projects is required before submitting an application to ensure a better chance of success.

- It is highly recommended that before sending the documents described below, the applicant contacts the director of the project potentially involved in the thesis to have some preliminary discussions.
- Send to tethys@tethys.org:
 - A **short proposal** including thesis aim, methods, expected results, budget and timeline.
 - Your **detailed CV**.

Please, rename your **motivation letter** and **CV** as:

- Surname_Name_Motivation_Letter /CV_date (as yyymmdd)

Please, when sending the application documents, be sure to activate a “request read receipt”.

3. Participants

Alternatively, consider enrolling to one of our long-term citizen science programs in the Ligurian Sea (Italy) and/or in the Ionian Sea (Greece). All the info is available at this link: <https://whalesanddolphins.tethys.org/join-us/>

This may allow us to get to know you and it would also give you a good taste of what we do and how we do it. Moreover, if the experience is positive for both sides, it may lead to an opportunity to becoming a Field Research Assistant the following year.

Useful links

In search of answers: making a career in marine mammal science

By Mridula Srinivasann and the SMM Education Committee. Illustrations by Cara Gallagher

<https://marinemammalscience.org/professional-development/how-to-become-a-marine-mammal-scientist/>

Knickmeier, K., Reckendorf, A., Brennecke, D. (2023). How to Become a Marine Mammal Scientist. In: Brennecke, D., Knickmeier, K., Pawliczka, I., Siebert, U., Wahlberg, M. (eds) Marine Mammals. Springer, Cham.

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-06836-2_6

Advice for people interested in a career studying marine mammals

By Robin Baird <https://cascadiaresearch.org/robin-baird-advice/>