

Employment Opportunity

Positions	Research Assistant (1): Re-assessment of the <i>ecological impact</i> of blue swimming crab fisheries on other captured species
Duration	Six (06) months July to December 2023
Location	Jaffna Kilinochchi Mannar districts
Overview	The Research Assistant will assist pelagikos staff working in Jaffna, Kilinochchi and Mannar districts to re-assess the <i>ecological impact</i> of blue swimming crab fisheries on non-target species in the Palk Bay and the Gulf of Mannar.

The re-assessment will improve the understanding of the *ecological impact* of bottom-set blue swimming crab nets on other captured species, including protected and endangered species. The knowledge gained from the re-assessment will be used by pelagikos to develop and implement strategies with fishing communities to reduce or eliminate negative *ecological impacts* of blue swimming crab fishing on marine resources in the Palk Bay and the Gulf of Mannar.

Main Tasks: The Research Assistant will be responsible for

- 1) Collecting and analyzing data daily blue swimming catch data with fishing communities at landing centres in Jaffna District (*provisionally: Nedunthivu, Punguthathivu, Thooraiyour and Mandathivu*), Kilinochchi District (*provisionally: Palikuda and Irainamathanagar*) and Mannar District (*provisionally: Anthoniyapuram, Sinnakaraisal, Pesalai, Talaimannar*).
- 2) Developing / proposing strategies to reduce or eliminate negative *ecological impacts* of blue swimming crab fishing on marine resources in the Palk Bay and the Gulf of Mannar

Qualifications: The successful applicant will have

- ✓ **A Bachelor's degree in a relevant subject** for example fisheries, marine science, zoology, biological science, environmental science.
- ✓ **Excellent communications skills in Tamil** to work effectively with blue swimming crab fishing communities in Jaffna, Kilinochchi and Mannar districts and good communication skills in English to work with pelagikos staff. *Knowledge of Sinhala would be an advantage*
- ✓ **Good field data collection skills**, the ability to enter and analyse primary data in Microsoft Excel and write short reports in Microsoft Word
- ✓ **Enthusiasm and willingness to work / stay** in fishing villages from Delft Island in Jaffna District to Talaimannar in Mannar District and to travel independently between locations as required.

To apply, please email your Curriculum Vitae to steve@pelagikos.lk

pelagikos is an Equal Opportunity employer.

Recruitment is decided on the basis of personality, experience, qualifications, capability and the needs of the company