

The South African Weather Service (SAWS) is a Section 3(a) public entity under the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) and is governed by a Board. The organisation is an authoritative voice for weather and climate related services in South Africa and is a member of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) to fulfil a range of international obligations of the government. SAWS strives to be a Weather and Climate Centre of Excellence providing innovative solutions to ensure a weather-smart region, sustainable development and economic growth.

The South African Weather Service is therefore seeking to appoint an efficient and enthusiastic person to undertake the role of:

Scientist: Air-Sea Interaction
Salary: Negotiable
Centre: Research Unit, Centurion
2-Year Fixed Term Contract
(Ref: WS07/042024)

Job summary

A Scientist Air-Sea interaction will conduct research on the role of local air-sea interaction in fire activity over South Africa. The candidate will assess the suitability of various indices, such as the Fire Weather Index (FWI) and Lowveld Fire Danger Index (LFDI), primarily for South African coastal areas, in close collaboration with the SAWS Research Department and other stakeholders, contributing to the development of a new National Fire Danger Rating System. Additionally, the successful candidate will participate in other research activities within the Marine Research Unit as delegated by the Lead Scientist / Senior Manager. Experience working with the fire indices will be an added advantage.

Key Performance Areas

The candidate will be required to:

- Actively initiate and lead or participate in Marine Research Unit programmes, projects or activities related to commercial services and public good at national and international scale.
- Develop or improve products and services, methodologies and/or processes to improve service delivery to clients.

- Develop and nurture external collaboration with relevant national and international institutions in line with strategic directions of SAWS.
- Develop and/or enhance validation methodology for marine related forecast models.
- Represent SAWS where appropriate and serve on national or international scientific panels/committees or specialist groups in an expert capacity.
- Carry out all administrative functions attached to the post including the supervision of subordinates and scientific mentoring and development of junior scientists.
- Continue self-development and maintain currency with regard to new developments in the fields of ocean and atmospheric sciences to ensure that SAWS continues to provide highly competitive products and services that meet the needs of the users.
- Assist forecasting department in monitoring and issuing of marine-related weather hazard warnings ahead of significant weather systems.
- Assist with implementation and requirements of the SAWS TQM System.
- Collaborate with other SAWS departments to monitor, improve and fully leverage observation and forecasting systems.
- Promote the awareness of marine SAWS products and services to relevant stakeholders.
- Ensure that the work environment complies with legislative requirements in relation to Occupational Health and Safety.

Minimum Requirements

Education and Experience

- MSc in a related field (e.g., Oceanography, Atmospheric Science, Meteorology, and Physics).
- 3 years of experience in marine and/or atmospheric science.
- At least 3 peer reviewed publications in marine and/or atmospheric sciences.
- Demonstrate understanding on air-sea interaction and boundary layer marine meteorology.
- Expertise in the evaluation of observational and model data, using meteorological observations.
- Demonstrated proficiency in scientific data analysis and programming, specifically in MATLAB and/ or Python, or R.

Behavioural Competencies

- Innovation leading to implementation.

- Analytical thinking
- Creative thinking
- Emotional intelligence
- Excellent communication skills (written and verbal)

Please Note:

Register as user on our website using this link: <https://www.weathersa.co.za/home/vacancies> to apply for the above position and upload your (Comprehensive CV with certified copies of qualifications).

Enquiries for the above-mentioned positions must be directed to: Ms Thembisa Bixa, at Tel. (012) 367 6208.

Closing Date: 06 May 2024

Preference will be given to People living with disabilities in line with SAWS EE targets. This is an EE position and preference will be given to females, Africans, Indians and Coloureds (AIC). Correspondence will be limited to short listed candidates only. Candidates who have not been contacted within 3 months after the closing date of this advertisement, please accept that your application was unsuccessful. The South African Weather Service is an equal opportunity employer.

Record Reference	HCM-ADVERT-
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