



Position: Conservation Science Specialist

Location: Lisbon, Portugal

The Oceano Azul Foundation is hiring a **Conservation Science Specialist** to support and strengthen the scientific foundations of our marine conservation programs — with emphasis on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), marine ecology, sustainable fisheries, and monitoring.

This position is ideal for a scientist with **3–7 years of postdoctoral experience**, deep expertise in marine conservation and/or fisheries science, and strong experience in translating science into practical conservation action. The ideal candidate combines scientific excellence with leadership, project management, and the ability to guide multidisciplinary teams.

Key Responsibilities

- Support the scientific design, monitoring, and evaluation of MPAs.
- Contribute to fisheries assessments and ecosystem-based management approaches.
- Lead or manage scientific components of conservation projects, ensuring delivery on time and on budget.
- Produce technical reports, guidance documents, and applied research to inform conservation decision-making.
- Strengthen Oceano Azul Foundation’s internal scientific capacity and support cross-team collaboration.
- Engage with universities, NGOs, government partners, contractors, communities, and other stakeholders.
- Provide analytical insights, problem-solving support, and scientific advice across FOA’s conservation portfolio.



Required Qualifications

- PhD in marine ecology, marine science, fisheries science, or related field.
- Demonstrated experience in MPAs, fisheries, or marine ecology.
- Strong analytical, writing, and communication skills.
- Proven ability to work across teams and manage multiple priorities in a fast-paced environment.
- Strong ability to design, plan, and manage projects, budgets, and timelines.
- Excellent leadership and interpersonal skills, with the ability to coordinate teams with diverse backgrounds.
- Ability to collaborate effectively with communities, local stakeholders, and international partners.
- Demonstrated capacity for critical thinking, complex problem-solving, and developing innovative solutions for conservation challenges.
- Fluency in English (Portuguese, French, or Spanish desirable).
- Familiarity with policies, regulations, and international frameworks related to marine conservation and MPAs.
- Passion for environmental sustainability, marine biodiversity, and nature protection.

Additional Requirements

- Willingness and availability to relocate to Lisbon, Portugal, for the position.
- Availability for travel to support program implementation, field missions, stakeholder engagement, conferences, and international collaborations.

How to Apply

Applications (CL + CV) must be submitted to the **Head of Conservation Operations** at btownsend@oceanozulfoundation.org