

Vacancy Announcement

Associate Scientist for the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) invites applications for the position of Associate Scientist. This is a full-time appointment to work at the headquarters of this international organization, which is located in La Jolla, California, U.S.A.

The IATTC is the regional fisheries management organization responsible for the implementation of the 2003 Antigua Convention, the main objective of which is to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of tuna and tuna-like species in the eastern Pacific Ocean. The IATTC employs a scientific staff that operates under the leadership of the Director and the Coordinator of Scientific Research. The functions of the scientific staff are defined in article XIII of the convention and include, among others, conducting scientific research, providing information and scientific advice, and collecting statistical data. More information about the IATTC and the [Antigua Convention](#), which governs the Commission's operation and activities of its staff, can be found at www.iattc.org.

The selected applicant will work within the Life History and Behavior Group of the Biology Program. The scientific work and duties of this position will include, *inter alia*, age and growth of tropical tunas, reproductive biology of tunas, and analysis of conventional and archival tuna tagging data. The position duties also include regular participation in at-sea field work in support of tuna tagging cruises and other research projects. The applicant will be expected to contribute to the preparation of scientific reports and publications resulting from experimental studies.

Selection Criteria

The applicant must have, as a minimum, a Bachelor of Science degree (BS) in life sciences or a related field and relevant work experience.

Candidates should also possess the following skills:

- Experience with fish aging techniques, including otolith extraction, slide preparation, light microscopy, and digital image analyses methodologies.
- Experience with PC-based databases, particularly MS Access and SQL server
- Familiarity with commonly used statistical programs. A working knowledge of R is preferable.
- Experience spending extensive time at sea as an observer or on research cruises is highly desirable as extensive field time is a key function of the position.
- Good interpersonal skills and experience working as part of a team, as well as the ability to work independently.
- Willingness and ability to work in a multicultural environment.
- Experience writing reports and/or journal papers.
- Experience presenting to various types of audiences.

Desirable qualities.

- Working knowledge of English; ability to communicate in Spanish; full proficiency and fluency in both languages would be an asset.

Salary and Allowances

A base salary starting \$56,616/year (GS-7.1 level) or more, commensurate with qualifications, skills, and experience.

Allowances include annual leave with pay, sick leave with pay, medical, dental and life insurance and a defined contribution pension plan.

Availability

If selected, the candidate will begin work in March 2024, or as soon as possible thereafter. Interviews are expected to be scheduled for the first weeks of 2024 and once complete, a candidate will be selected prior to February 2024.

Applications

Applications should include the following:

- A cover letter containing a statement of purpose of the application and succinct descriptions of the applicant's experiences and abilities.
- Curriculum Vitae – preferably the applicant should fill, electronically or in hardcopy, the IATTC personal history form that can be accessed at <https://www.iattc.org/IATTC-Personal-History-Form-Bilingual.pdf>
- List of training courses, special skills, certificates and licenses, honors, or awards that relate to the specific description of this announcement. Please do not include copies of certificates.
- List of persons with a recent knowledge of the applicant's character, qualifications, and experience.
- List of publications, reports, or relevant courses
- The selected candidate will be required to provide a health certificate confirming good health and the ability to physically perform the functions of the position
- A statement as to whether the applicant's current supervisor may be contacted.

Applications must be submitted in electronic format to Teresa Musano (tmusano@iattc.org) no later than 21 December 2023.