



Wildlands Conservation Trust (WILDTRUST)
invites applications for the following position within its
WILDOCEANS programme

SENIOR TECHNICAL OFFICER, HIGH SEAS & PRINCE EDWARD ISLANDS (PEI) MPAs
Based in Cape Town, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)

Duration: Fixed-term contract (24 months)

Start date: 01 September 2026

Employed by: WILDTRUST

BACKGROUND

[WILDTRUST](#) is a South African not-for-profit, public benefit, non-governmental organisation, with a vision of a “thriving and resilient world” and implements its work through two programmes: WILDLANDS (focused on terrestrial systems) and WILDOCEANS (focused on marine systems). The primary interlinked goals of WILDOCEANS are to 1) protect and restore marine and coastal biodiversity, and 2) build resilience for coastal communities.

WILDTRUST is partnering with the DFFE to promote sustainable ocean governance, marine conservation and effective management. WILDTRUST, with secured donor funding, is recruiting applicants to support the DFFE. The candidates will support the management of the Prince Edward Islands Marine Protected Area and contribute to the coordinated, strategic and phased implementation of the BBNJ Agreement. This support will strengthen South Africa’s ability to protect critical marine ecosystems while also advancing the broader sustainability, resilience and responsible ocean-use objectives that underpin the ocean economy. This will be achieved through a governance, science, capacity, and economic enablement approach, ensuring alignment with South Africa’s national interests, ocean economy priorities, and international obligations. The Senior Technical Officer Role will provide support for technical and process management and stakeholder engagement for the marine protected areas within the Prince Edward Islands and surrounds.

KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS:

- Support for the DFFE BBNJ Implementation and Coordination Advisor.
- Management and implementation for the PEI MPA and the adjacent areas beyond national jurisdiction.
- Development of technical reports, and the monitoring, and evaluation of project activities.
- Support for stakeholder engagement, including identifying key stakeholders for public consultations.
- Administrative, organisational and co-ordination support as required.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

- Undergraduate and Honours or equivalent four-year degree in Marine Biology, Botany, Entomology, Environmental Science, Environmental Management, Biological Sciences, or Natural Science (NQF7) or relevant equivalent qualification.
- Two to three (2 - 3) years’ experience in the relevant field.
- Knowledge of scientific, conservation and sustainable use principles governing marine biodiversity management.
- Knowledge of South African policy and legislation frameworks relevant to environmental and biodiversity management.
- Knowledge of coastal and marine management processes, departmental protocols and the relevant promulgated regulations.
- Knowledge and understanding of United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and global, and regional ocean governance.
- Knowledge and experience in project management.
- Relevant experience in coordination, facilitation, and stakeholder engagement.

KEY COMPETENCIES:

- **Systems Thinking:** Ability to integrate science, policy, economy and governance.
- **Coordination and Facilitation:** Strong communication and relationship management with the ability to work across departments; sectors, disciplines and stakeholders.
- **Project Management Skills:** Good planning, co-ordination and organisational skills.
- **Reporting and Data Management:** Ability to collect, analyse and interpret information for the purpose of reporting.

TO APPLY:

Submit a covering letter with a 2–3-page CV, and at least three references to shannons@wildtrust.co.za by **24 July 2026**. Certificates must be available on request but not included in the original application. The WILDTRUST reserves the right to vary the requirements, or conditions, and not to fill these positions. Should you not receive a response within a month after the closing application date, kindly consider your application unsuccessful. We offer competitive salaries based on qualifications and experience. **Enquiries can be emailed to** Shannon Sanilall: shannons@wildtrust.co.za

Disclaimer: WILDTRUST employees are not authorized to request payment from prospective candidates for recruitment purposes. Any such payment requests should be reported immediately to the Ethics hotline 0800 828 688.