



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Biodiversity Officer

Type of Contract	Individual
Position	Biodiversity Officer
Language	English (required)
Duration	18 months
Location	Antigua and Barbuda
Date of Issue	10 February 2020
Application Deadline	29 February 2020
Instructions	<p>Submit the following to eagantigua@gmail.com with the subject line as “Application for Biodiversity Officer”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A cover letter indicating interest and experience · A curriculum vitae indicating experience with similar projects · Name and contact details for 3 references <p>Questions prior to submission of documents may be sent to eagantigua@gmail.com Attn: OICP Coordinator</p>

About the EAG (Environmental Awareness Group)

The Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) is a, voluntary, not-for-profit, non- governmental organization (NGO) in Antigua & Barbuda. EAG aims to collaborate with agencies, communities and individuals to protect and manage our living and non-living natural resources in a sustainable and ecologically responsible manner, through education, training and conservation activities, for the benefit of present and future generations of Antigua & Barbuda.

The EAG, through partnership with a range of organisations, has coordinated the removal of invasive alien species (IAS) from approximately sixteen (16) of the country’s offshore islands, including Redonda.

Background

The EAG has been contracted by the Department of the Environment, under the GEF project “Preventing COSTS of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Barbados and the OECS Countries”, to undertake the completion of Component 2 of the project in Antigua and Barbuda. Component 2 focuses on the control and management of IAS impacts. Critical to this, therefore, is the eradication and/or improved control of IAS impacting globally significant biodiversity, thereby reducing threats to key species.

The primary goal of this pilot project is to advance biodiversity conservation on islands and islets that support many of Antigua & Barbuda’s most endangered wildlife. However, following eradication it is important to monitor biodiversity on the islands, to determine survival rates, trends in biodiversity and other information that is essential for the management of these islands. Therefore, a critical component

of the project includes the development and implementation of a monitoring plan for biodiversity on the islands that have been eradicated of IAS and to prevent re-incursion through the development and implementation of biosecurity protocols. Monitoring includes a range of species, including vegetation, reptiles and birds.

Objectives

The objectives of this consultancy are:

1. To develop a programme for biodiversity monitoring;
2. To coordinate and implement biodiversity monitoring protocols; and
3. To manage, analyse, and disseminate data in collaboration with relevant personnel, to include the Biosecurity Officer, the Redonda Ecosystem Reserve Coordinator, and the OICP Coordinator.

General responsibilities:

The Biodiversity Officer will be responsible for the development and implementation of a biodiversity monitoring schedule and protocol for the offshore islands. The Biodiversity Officer will work closely with the Offshore Islands Conservation Programme (OICP) Coordinator, along with the EAG, the Department of Environment, the landowners, and other key local stakeholders, as well as Fauna & Flora International (FFI).

Specific responsibilities

- Review and revise present biodiversity protocols along with relevant agencies and personnel;
- Develop a schedule of biodiversity monitoring for offshore islands as a part of a comprehensive workplan for biodiversity surveys that must include vegetation, birds and reptiles;
- Develop a schedule of site-specific biodiversity monitoring for mainland Antigua in conjunction with ASTP (Antigua Sea Turtle Project);
- Maintain biodiversity monitoring equipment and manage inventory list;
- Support traditional and social media of the EAG with relevant information on trends, observations and experiences on biodiversity;
- Manage collection and storage of data and collaborate with relevant personnel to analyse and disseminate data and information
- Prepare relevant reports;
- Support eradication on Green and Smith Islands as designated by the OICP Coordinator; and
- Develop training plan and curricula for volunteers.

Required Qualifications

The Biodiversity Officer should possess the following:

- First degree or equivalent experience in ecology or related field;
- Familiar with flora and fauna in the Eastern Caribbean;
- Proficient in MS office suite including Excel;
- Comfortable working in extreme tropical conditions for long periods;
- Ability to work with a range of stakeholders;
- A good grasp of the English Language; and

- Eligible to work in Antigua and Barbuda.

Desired Qualifications

- Works well individually and in teams;
- Takes initiative;
- Comfortable swimmer;
- Possesses excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.