

Research Related Careers in Marine Science

- Careers in Academia
- Careers in Industry
- Careers in Government
- Careers in Nonprofit and Non-governmental Organizations
- Careers in Consulting Firms or Private Enterprise

Source: <http://www.marinecareers.net/career-outlook>

Training and Education Requirements

Varies depending on type of position – most positions are highly competitive

- Technician or Aid type positions may only require HS degree
- Most positions require at least a Bachelor's Degree
 - Biology, Zoology, Fisheries, Ecology, Oceanography
- Higher level positions typically require a Masters or Doctorate Degree
 - Fisheries, Zoology, Oceanography, Biology, Ecology, Statistics, Economics, Political Science

Courses, Course Work and What to Study

- Science – Biology, Chemistry, Physics are all important components
- Math – Much of the analysis work requires statistics and math
- English – Both written and verbal communication skills are critically important
- Computer skills – For many jobs most of your time will be spent at a computer

“In fishery science, where the study of fish and marine mammal population dynamics is in the most demand, a strong background in advanced mathematics and computer skills in addition to course work in the animal and aquatic sciences is critical for getting a competitive edge in the job market. Also, more universities are offering courses and programs in fisheries or wildlife management, another increasingly important aspect of the study of fishes, marine mammals, and sea turtles.”

National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Fisheries Science Center

Salary Ranges

Examples of Select ODFW Positions

Position	Monthly Gross Range	Yearly Gross Range
Biological Scientific Assistant	\$2,820 - \$3,586	\$33,840 - \$43,042
F & W/L Technician	\$3,033 - \$4,519	\$36,396 - \$54,228
Natural Resource Specialist 1	\$3,586 - \$5,460	\$43,032 - \$65,520
Natural Resource Specialist 2	\$4,122 - \$6,306	\$49,464 - \$75,672
Natural Resource Specialist 3	\$4,749 - \$7,265	\$56,988 - \$87,180
Natural Resource Specialist 4	\$5,460 - \$8,393	\$65,520 - \$100,716
Principle Executive Manager D	\$6,883 - \$10,649	\$82,596 – \$127,788

Salary Ranges

Examples of Selected Federal Positions

Position	Monthly Gross Range	Yearly Gross Range
Biological Science Technician (Fish)	\$2,939 - \$4,733	\$35,265 - \$56,790
Marine Scientist - NOAA	\$4,453 – \$6,375	\$53,433 - \$76,499
Fish Biologist – USFWS Marine	\$4,453 – \$7,004	\$53,433 - \$84,049
Research Fish Biologist -NOAA	\$5,387 - \$8,395	\$64,649 - \$100,739
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Administrator – NOAA	\$11,214 - \$13,683	\$134,578 – 164,200

Employment Trends

- Number of zoologists and wildlife biologists employed in 2006: **20,000**
- Employment for zoologists and wildlife biologists is expected to **increase by only 4%** between 2014 and 2024. This is slower than the average for all U.S. occupations.

Source: US Bureau of Labor

Employment Outlook

- The employment outlook in this field is highly competitive.
- The supply of marine scientists far exceeds the demand, and the number of government jobs (the federal and state governments are important employers) is limited.
- Other employers are local governments, aquaria/museums, colleges and universities, and private research laboratories or consulting firms.

Source: National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Fisheries Science Center