

## Deck Chief *(multiple positions)*

at Ocean Exploration Trust

**Status:** Contract

**Start Date:** As early as February 2022

**FLSA Classification:** Non-exempt

**Compensation Type:** Day Rate

**Reports to:** Operations Manager

**Location:** at sea aboard E/V *Nautilus* (Pacific)

### The Opportunity

[Ocean Exploration Trust](#) (OET) is seeking experienced personnel to support the scientific exploration vessel (E/V) *Nautilus* as **Deck Chief**. This is a rotating seasonal position that requires up to 3 month deployments at a time throughout the year. OET is seeking multiple people so that 2-3 people may fill the role in rotation while the ship is deployed for 10 months out of the year on an annual basis.

The Deck Chief is responsible for working with the remotely operated vehicle (ROV) team, science teams, and vessel bridge crew to safely deploy vehicles and scientific equipment. They will be responsible for directing safe crane lifting operations on the aft deck; supporting the ROV team with safe launch and recovery of vehicles; launch and recovery of guest science equipment/vehicles (e.g., AUVs, ASVs, autonomous camera systems, scientific moorings, etc); safe securing of equipment on deck; and playing a lead role in the development of launch and recovery protocols of new vehicles and equipment that is brought onboard. To be successful in the role, individuals will have at least AB-level experience working on scientific research vessels (or equivalent experience), a keen eye for detail and safety, and will be a collaborative team player.

### About Ocean Exploration Trust

OET is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization—founded in 2007 by [Dr. Robert Ballard](#)—that owns and operates exploration vessel (E/V) [Nautilus](#). Annual expeditions aboard the vessel are conducted in partnership with the organization's primary sponsor, NOAA Ocean Exploration, and others including NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and the National Geographic Society. Through telepresence, all E/V *Nautilus* expeditions are streamed live to provide scientists and the public with real-time access to exploratory research and these live streams reach millions around the globe each year. Additionally, OET utilizes E/V *Nautilus* as a platform to train the next generation of sea-going scientists, engineers, and sea-going professionals.

In 2019, OET was selected—in partnership with University of Rhode Island, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, University of New Hampshire, and University of Southern Mississippi—to implement NOAA's [Ocean Exploration Cooperative Institute](#). With these partners, OET conducts expeditions with a variety of remotely operated and autonomous vehicles to map and explore US territorial waters.

**Your responsibilities will include:**

- Lead safe overboarding and recovery of all scientific equipment in support of OET's scientific missions
- Lead safe onboard crane/heavy lifting operations in port and at sea..
- Lead in securing equipment on deck of the ship
- Work with and train people from a range of experiences in order to take part in OET's onboard training programs
- Assist OET in developing overboarding procedures for new vehicles that are periodically brought aboard by visiting science teams

**Required experience & skills:**

- A minimum of AB-level experience on scientific research vessels or equivalent shipboard experience
- Working knowledge of selecting and using various rigging hardware, such as ropes, slings, shackles, clamps, pulleys, chain falls, and come-alongs
- Ability to ensure crane operations are safe, accounting for weather impacts, vessel motion, and equipment safe working loads up to 10,000 lbs or more
- Training/experience in rigging safety and theory
- Training/experience in operating a 15T crane and ability to handle loads at sea
- Ability to work with others and give instructions in a clear and safe manner
- Ability to keep rigging equipment organized and maintain test records and inspection sheets
- Ability to evaluate weather conditions and ship motion to determine if a crane operation is safe to proceed
- Ability to collaborate with the captain and others to make weather calls on operations
- Ability to mentor and training students and individuals with varied levels of experience
- Ability to oversee inventory, inspection and documentation of lifting equipment
- General workshop skills and comfortable using hand and power tools
- Comfortable with computers for simple data entry, email, ect.

**Preferred qualifications:**

- Certified Marine Rigger or equivalent experience
- Sea Crane Training Certificate
- High Voltage Training/Experience
- Hydraulics Training/Experience
- Offshore safety training (STCW)

**To be successful in this position, you must also:**

- Have a willingness to take part and learn about the technical aspects of the ROVs and other scientific equipment
- Be physically and mentally capable of meeting the demands of living and operating aboard a working exploration vessel, and must be able to live in close quarters with other expedition team members (including a shared two-person stateroom)

- Maintain a pleasant and professional demeanor and open to working with people from diverse backgrounds
- Be able to deploy at sea for up to 120 contiguous days
- Be able to work unstructured day to day schedule
- Possess strong organizational skills
- Be a strong team player with a proactive, service-oriented attitude
- Be able to work collaboratively with an international, multidisciplinary, diverse team of engineers, scientists, educators, and students
- Possess strong creative and problem-solving skills
- Possess excellent verbal and written communications

### **Work Authorization**

In compliance with federal law, all persons hired will be required to verify identity and eligibility to work in the United States and to complete the required employment eligibility verification document form upon hire.

*Ocean Exploration Trust is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. It is our policy to prohibit discrimination and harassment of any type. We provide equal employment opportunity to all persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, genetic information, disability, veteran status, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital and family status. Ocean Exploration Trust is committed to creating an inclusive environment and organizational culture. We warmly encourage candidates with historically marginalized identities in the oceanographic and STEM communities to apply, including Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, Pacific Islander, LGBTQIA+ individuals.*

## **TO APPLY**

**Deadline:** Open until filled. Review of submitted applications will begin in earnest beginning January 4, 2022.

**Application:** To apply, please submit the following to the form linked below.

- A current CV
- Three (3) references that can speak to your professional abilities, skill sets, and work ethic. List name, contact email, contact phone number, titles/affiliations, and your relationship to each individual. Please also note if you would like to be contacted before we reach out to anyone listed under your current employer (we understand that this can be a sensitive process). References will only be contacted for selected final candidates.

**Upload your application at:** <http://nautl.us/DeckChief>

*Please contact us at [careers@oet.org](mailto:careers@oet.org) if you have any questions or issues with your application submission.*