

Marine biologist

Studies ocean life: how animals and plants live, grow and interact.

Skills: Science, patience, writing

How to start: A science degree, often a master's or PhD

Fisheries technologist

Helps manage fish stocks and fish farms, and supports fishing communities.

Skills: Biology, maths, working with people

How to start: BS Fisheries and the licensure exam

Oceanographer

Studies the physics and chemistry of the sea, from currents to the deep trenches.

Skills: Maths, physics, computers

How to start: A science degree, then postgraduate study

Dive instructor

Teaches people to dive safely, and often leads survey and conservation dives.

Skills: Swimming, calm under pressure, teaching

How to start: Divemaster, then instructor training

Protected area ranger

Patrols marine reserves, enforces the rules and talks to visitors.

Skills: Courage, fairness, local knowledge

How to start: Training with the LGU or DENR, boat skills

Coastal planner

Plans where to build, protect or restore along the coast.

Skills: Maps, problem solving, negotiation

How to start: A degree in planning, geography or environmental science

Data scientist

Turns survey records and satellite data into answers and maps.

Skills: Maths, coding, curiosity

How to start: A degree in statistics, computing or science

Science communicator

Tells ocean stories through photos, films, writing and social media.

Skills: Creativity, writing, cameras

How to start: A portfolio of work, often a media or science degree

Aquaculture specialist

Farms fish, shellfish and seaweed in ways that don't harm the sea.

Skills: Biology, chemistry, business

How to start: BS Fisheries or Aquaculture

Environmental lawyer

Uses the law to protect the ocean and the people who depend on it.

Skills: Arguing, reading, fairness

How to start: A law degree

Community organiser

Helps coastal communities plan and run their own conservation projects.

Skills: Listening, local languages, leadership

How to start: Experience, often a social science degree

Boat captain

Runs boats safely for research, diving, tourism or patrols.

Skills: Navigation, weather sense, responsibility

How to start: Seafarer training and licences