

tara POLARIS I

Physical Oceanographer Position — Tara Polaris 1 Expedition aboard Tara Polar Station

We are seeking a **physical oceanographer** to join the scientific team that will conduct research during the winter leg of the **Tara Polaris 1** transpolar drift expedition in the Arctic. The winter leg will last 8 months from September 2026 to April 2027 **with no crew rotation**.

Tara Polar Station was built between 2023 and 2025 and successfully tested in the sea ice of the Fram Strait in July–August 2025 (<https://fondationtaraocean.org/en/schooner/tara-polar-station/>). After additional trials in the northern Baltic Sea, the platform will be prepared for its **first transpolar drift** starting in September 2026—following in the footsteps of the *Fram* (1893–1896), the schooner *Tara* (2006–2007), and the *Polarstern* (2019–2020).

Designed specifically for long-term scientific expeditions within the central Arctic pack ice, **Tara Polar Station** can accommodate **6 crew members** and a **scientific team of 6 people in winter (single cabins) and up to 12 people in summer (double cabins)**. The vessel includes **150 m² of laboratory space**, a **moonpool** allowing direct ocean sampling using a rosette or an ROV, and **external decks** that can host atmospheric research instruments and other scientific payloads.

The **Tara Polaris 1 scientific program** encompasses a wide range of disciplines, including **atmospheric sciences, glaciology, oceanography, and biology**.

To complete the scientific team for the winter leg, we are looking for a candidate who meets the following criteria:

Technical Skills

- Degree in **physical oceanography or equivalent**
- **Significant at-sea experience** (polar experience appreciated but not required)
- Strong **technical and hands-on skills**
- Strong willingness to contribute to a **multidisciplinary scientific program**
- Demonstrated **ability to live and work in isolation** within a small team for extended periods
- Knowledge in electronics and computing. Good bases on networking and system interfaces will be a plus.
- Capacity to do data processing for checking and analyzing dataset onboard.
- A solid field experience onboard oceanographic vessels
- Good organization skills: Manage sampling logsheets and record books.
- Excellent communication skills!
- Adaptability

Personal Qualities

- Not afraid of repetitive tasks & spending long hours inside
- Not afraid of long-term isolation
- Meticulous and resourceful
- Accommodating and socially-oriented
- Good self-control
- Proactive and multi-skilled
- Physically fit

The position will begin in **August 2026**. Candidates must be available for training sessions during the **months prior to the start date**.

The selected scientist will lead the at-sea component of the **physical oceanography program**, including the **deployment of the CTD-rosette** and operation of other instruments such as **various ADCPs**. In close communication with the shore-based scientific consortium and the chief scientist, the selected scientist will **process and assess data quality** and help **adjust sampling strategies** as needed. The selected candidate will also contribute to other scientific activities onboard as part of the team effort.

Please send your CV and cover letter to clementine@fondationtaraocean.org **before November 30, 2025**, specifying in the email subject line: **APPLICATION TARA POLARIS I Physical Oceanographer**

Interviews will be held on the second week of December 2025.

Marcel BABIN

Scientific Director of Tara Polaris 1