

## Position Details

### Technical Services – CSOF5

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS FOR APPLICANTS	
Advertised Job Title	Senior Field Technician - SKA-Low Telescope
Job Reference	93576
Tenure	Indefinite Full-Time, Part-Time or Job-Share
Salary Range	AU\$105,806 to AU\$114,500 per annum, plus up to 15.4% superannuation
Location(s)	Geraldton, Western Australia
Relocation Assistance	Will be provided to the successful candidate if required
Applications are open to	Australian/New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents
Client Focus – Internal	0%
Client Focus – External	100%
Position reports to the	This role will report to the SKA-Low Deployment and Maintenance Manager
Number of Direct Reports	5
Enquire about this job	To enquire about this role, please reach out to the SKA-Low Head of Engineering, Angela Teale, on <a href="mailto:angela.teale@skao.int">angela.teale@skao.int</a> for more information.
How to apply	Apply online at <a href="https://jobs.csiro.au/">https://jobs.csiro.au/</a> Internal applicants please apply via <b>Jobs Central</b> If you experience difficulties when applying, please email <a href="mailto:careers.online@csiro.au">careers.online@csiro.au</a> or call 1300 984 220.

#### Acknowledgement of Country

CSIRO acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, sea and waters, of the areas that we live and work on across Australia. We acknowledge their continuing connection to their culture and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. View our [vision towards reconciliation](#).

#### The CSIRO Experience

As an employee of CSIRO, you will be eligible for the many benefits of working at Australia's National Science Agency. You can read more here:

1. [Life at CSIRO](#)
2. [Personal Development & Learning](#)
3. [Generous Leave & Conditions](#)
4. [Work / Life Balance](#)

## Background

The SKA Observatory (SKAO) is a next-generation radio astronomy facility that will revolutionise our understanding of the Universe and the laws of fundamental physics. Enabled by cutting-edge technology, it promises to have a major impact on society, in science and beyond. As an intergovernmental organisation, the SKAO brings together nations from sixteen countries around the world.

The Observatory has a global footprint and consists of the SKAO Global Headquarters in the UK, the SKAO's two telescopes at radio-quiet sites in South Africa and Australia, and associated facilities to support the operations of the telescopes.

Constructing and operating these telescopes will position the SKAO as the leading research infrastructure for radio astronomy globally, providing science capabilities to the international astronomical community for decades to come.

Australia will host the SKAO's low frequency telescope (SKA-Low) in remote Western Australia on Wajarri Yamaji Country.

The Traditional Owners and native title holders, the Wajarri Yamaji, have gifted CSIRO with the traditional name Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundara for the CSIRO Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory, home to the SKA-Low telescope. The traditional name means 'sharing sky and stars' in the Wajarri language.

In Australia, SKAO is collaborating with CSIRO to operate and support the construction of the SKA-Low Telescope. SKA-Low teams will operate out of:

- Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundara, the CSIRO Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory on Wajarri Yamaji Country.
- Our Engineering Operations Centre on Nhanhangardi, Naaguja, Wilynyu and Amangu Country in Geraldton.
- Our Science Operations Centre on Whadjuk Noongar Country in Perth.

Further Reading: [Explore SKAO](#)

## Role Overview

As a Senior Field Technician, your role in the SKA-Low team will initially be focused on constructing, assembling, and basic integration of the world's largest low-frequency radio telescope. As a senior member of the team you will aid in creating efficient and improved processes and procedures during construction and into operations. Additionally, this role will play a key part in recruiting the first team of technicians, and in overseeing their work during construction and maintenance. This role requires leadership, knowledge of RF systems, commitment to safety, and process improvement skills.

This role is based at the Engineering Operations Centre (EOC) and will require regular travel to Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundara, the CSIRO Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory. Initially travel will be Monday to Friday (drive or fly to site as required), and as construction ramps up it will transition to a working roster to allow for operational coverage of on-site staff.

Due to the locations involved in the SKA Project, in particular South Africa and the United Kingdom, this role may require work outside of normal hours. It will also require domestic travel our facilities in Perth, and occasionally internationally, specifically to the United Kingdom and South Africa.

CSIRO and the SKA Observatory value and respect difference, and we are committed to building an inclusive culture by creating an environment where you can balance a successful career with your commitments and interests outside of work. We believe that you will do your best at work if you have a work / life balance. We are open to discussing flexible working opportunities with this role being offered on a full-time, part-time or job share basis. Please raise your preference in your application.

### **Duties and Key Result Areas**

- Recruit, manage, and develop an inclusive and diverse team of technicians, fostering a safety-conscious and continuous learning environment.
- Assemble and deploy components of the SKA-Low telescope, with emphasis on the RF systems.
- Carry out level 2 integration to ensure the seamless functioning of the telescope.
- Exhibit a strong commitment to health and safety, ensuring your team follows all safety protocols.
- Carry out regular check-ups, maintenance, and repairs on telescope systems once operational, diagnosing and fixing RF system issues.
- Supervise and work with contractors during the construction, and maintenance phases, ensuring adherence to the highest standards.
- Develop, implement and improve system deployment and maintenance processes and safety protocols.
- Maintain accurate records of all RF system maintenance activities for future analysis and improvement.

### **Fundamental requirements:**

1. Ability to work outdoors in remote, extreme environments.
2. Willingness to traverse uneven terrain for extended distances.
3. Adaptability to a FIFO (fly-in, fly-out) roster.
4. Physical capability to repetitively lift and carry objects up to 10kgs.
5. Ability to use UHF and VHF handheld radios.
6. Possession of an Australian State/Territory issued light vehicle licence, and readiness to operate a 4WD.
7. Excited to be part of the Australia's first mega science project.

### **Selection Criteria**

CSIRO is an Equal Opportunity employer working hard to recruit world-class talent that represents the diversity across our society. As part of our commitment to equitable employment outcomes for under-represented groups, preference will be given to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and/or women and/or people with a disability who meet the role criteria.

### **Essential**

*Under CSIRO policy only those who are able to demonstrate how they can meet the essential criteria may be appointed.*

1. A Cert IV in Electrotechnology or equivalent experience in RF systems maintenance.
2. Proven experience in diagnosing and resolving problems on RF systems independently and systematically.
3. Experience in maintenance and support in a complex systems environment.
4. Ability to interpret system drawings, RF engineering drawings, and third-party operating and maintenance manuals accurately.

5. Proven experience in leading diverse teams, preferably in remote environments for management of large-scale or complex equipment. This includes overseeing team development, handling personnel issues, and adapting to unique challenges associated with remote settings.
6. Commitment to safe work practices, environmental sustainability, equity, and diversity.

### Desirable

1. Experience in using test and measurement instruments and their control software.
2. Experience with fibre optic systems, including cable management, splicing, and testing.
3. Certificate in training and assessing.
4. Experience working in a remote environments.

### Required Competencies

- **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Cooperates with others to achieve organisational objectives and may share team resources in order to do this. Collaborates with other team as well as industry colleagues.
- **Influence and Communication:** Uses knowledge of other party's priorities and adapts presentations or discussions to appeal to the interests and level of the audience. Anticipates and prepares for others reactions.
- **Resource Management/Leadership:** Sets up and maintains effective and efficient work teams and manages performance and resources, to achieve objectives. Chooses appropriate management strategies and communication styles to maintain high levels of motivation and productivity. Gives feedback for development purposes and provides support and direction for improvement.
- **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Investigates underlying issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develops appropriate response by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions.
- **Independence:** Plans, sets and works to meet challenging standards and goals for self and/or others. Recognises where endeavours will make the most impact or difference, decides on desired outcome and sets realistic goals to reach this target.
- **Adaptability:** Copes with ambiguity or situations that lack clarity. Adapts readily to changing circumstances and new responsibilities (which may include activities outside own preferences) in the interests of achieving team objectives. Recognises the need for and undertakes personal development as a result of changes.

### Special Requirements

- The successful candidate will be required to gain a National Police Clearance or equivalent. This will be conducted by CSIRO, Talent Services, through our provider HireRight. Please note that individuals with criminal records are not automatically deemed ineligible. Each application will be considered on its merits.
- The successful candidate will be required to undertake a pre-employment medical examination prior to commencement.
- Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundarra, The CSIRO Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory is a remote location in the Australian outback. While this role is based at the Engineering Operations Centre in Geraldton, regular travel to site will be required to perform aspects of the role. Willingness to safely perform duties in outdoor remote environments is crucial to this role.

## Child Safety

CSIRO is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people involved in our activities and programs. View our [Child Safe Policy](#).

## CSIRO and SKAO Values

Visit [CSIRO Online](#) and [Space and Astronomy](#) and [SKAO online](#) and [SKAO Location](#) for more information. In your application and at interview you will need to demonstrate behaviours aligned to our values of:

CSIRO	SKA Observatory
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People First</li><li>• Further Together</li><li>• Making it Real</li><li>• Trusted</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diversity and Inclusion</li><li>• Excellence</li><li>• Collaboration</li><li>• Creativity and Innovation</li><li>• Sustainability and Safety</li></ul>