

# Placement Description



**Cumbria**  
Wildlife Trust

<b>Role Title:</b>	South Walney Volunteer Assistant Warden ( <b>residential</b> )
<b>Commitment required:</b>	4 days (28 hours) per week, from around May 2020 (start date to be agreed)
<b>Based At:</b>	South Walney Nature Reserve
<b>Reports To:</b>	Sarah Dalrymple, South Walney Nature Reserve Warden

## Role Purpose:

Assist the warden in management of nature reserves in South West Cumbria based from South Walney, whilst gaining valuable, worthwhile experience in practical conservation and ecological tasks, with a particular emphasis on practical work including infrastructure maintenance, habitat & species monitoring and management plus visitor management and engagement.

Assist the Dynamic Dunescapes Project officer with a programme of engagement work including public events, citizen science, outreach and education work.

## Special Features of the Role:

Full training will be given to carry out a range of reserve tasks including ecological surveys, monitoring, practical site management and facilities maintenance. Due to the nature of the site, an independent and self-reliant style of working is required. **A driving licence and access to a vehicle is essential due to the remoteness of the site.**

**The warden will live on-site in shared cottage accommodation. Evening and weekend work may occasionally be required. A bursary package of rent-free accommodation including all bills (value: £2500) is offered plus a travel and training budget of £1000 – details on application.**

## Main Responsibilities and Accountabilities:

**Habitat and species monitoring and management:** Carry out practical habitat management works and species protection works as agreed with the South Walney Warden.

**Survey and monitoring:** Assist with systematic monitoring of species and features of conservation interest identified in the management plans, and other approved monitoring projects

**Facilities maintenance:** Maintenance of reserve infrastructure including jobs such as bird hide and trail signage repairs and other similar tasks. Ensure that all tools and vehicles are properly maintained and fit for purpose. Ensure that all records of maintenance checks are kept up to date and in accordance with Cumbria Wildlife Trust codes of practice. Ensure Health and Safety standards are met.

**Visitor management:** Promote the reserve and the work of Cumbria Wildlife Trust to the wider public. Actively seek to recruit new members from visitors to the reserves and the general public. Seek to protect the wildlife of the sites by controlling public access and behaviour. There is also the potential to develop and lead a program of events and guided walks.

**Staff and volunteer responsibilities:** Assist the warden in developing and maintaining an effective support group for the reserves including working with volunteers and others from community initiatives. Supervise volunteer groups to implement tasks.

Support the Dynamic Dunescapes officer where possible, with their programme of work.

**Administration:** Respond to telephone calls, e-mails and other enquiries. Assist the Warden with banking and other administrative tasks. Ensure all Cumbria Wildlife Trust documentation is completed.

**Team working:** Assist the seasonal Foulney Island tern warden and provide cover for their days off.

### **Conclusion of the Placement**

A learning log is to be kept during the placement to help your work colleagues to support you. This log will help you to create the placement report expected by your tutor as an integral part of the placement. Cumbria Wildlife Trust will also be keen to gain as much feedback as possible about the placement to enable them to continue to develop such opportunities.

### **Supporting the Trust – other tasks:**

Be proactive in increasing the Trust's membership and raising the profile of Cumbria Wildlife Trust.

Develop and participate in educational aspects of the Trust's work including events, guided walks and illustrated talks.

Any other duties that may reasonably arise from time to time.

All tasks and responsibilities to be carried out in accordance with the Trust's policies and procedures.

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*Due to the location of the nature reserves **applicants will need their own transport**, however travel expenses will be reimbursed. This placement would suit a person who has an interest in natural history and some previous experience of working outdoors.*

**To apply please send a brief CV and a covering letter outlining what you would like to gain from the placement and what skills you can bring to it, by email to [admin@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk) or by post to Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Plumgarths, Crook Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA8 8LX. PLEASE CLEARLY STATE WHICH PLACEMENT YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR OR WHETHER YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR BOTH PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES.**

**The deadline for applications is 5pm on Wednesday 26 February 2020.**

**Interviews will be held shortly after the closing date.**

**For further information regarding either of the roles please contact Jamie Normington, Senior Education and Volunteer Officer by email [jamien@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:jamien@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk) or phone on 01539 816300.**

**Please note that all sandwich placements need to be filled by individuals on a recognised sandwich programme or equivalent, while the individuals are enrolled at a university, working towards their undergraduate degree.**

**Date: Feb 2020**