



Cumbria
Wildlife Trust

Placement Description

Role Title:	Southern Nature Reserves Volunteer
Commitment required:	4 days (28 hours) per week, from around May 2020 (start date to be agreed) – <u>a vehicle & full driving licence is vital</u>
Based At:	Head Office, Plumgarths, Kendal, LA8 8LX and various reserves in South Cumbria
Reports to:	Senior Reserves Officer. The reserves team will be involved during this placement.

Role Purpose:

To support the team of reserves staff working on nature reserves in south Cumbria in ensuring the good management of several high quality nature reserves. This will involve hands on practical work including infrastructure maintenance, habitat and species monitoring and management and people engagement.

Key parts of the role involve the Foulshaw Moss nature reserve during Osprey breeding season and assisting Reserves Officers managing our woodland sites such as Smardale Gill and Brown Robin.

Special Features of the Role:

In general the role will involve working 4 weekdays per week. Occasional weekend and evening work may also be desirable. The Trust would consider a flexible working week.

A training bursary of £2500 is paid for this role, plus a travel & training budget of c.£1000.

Main Responsibilities:

Practical reserves work

Management of infrastructure and habitats, including tasks such as tree planting, scrub removal and dry stone walling 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 that Health and Safety standards are met.

People Engagement

All our sites receive visits from the public and specialist naturalists. In addition, Foulshaw Moss has a pair of breeding ospreys which attracts a significant number of visitors and online interest due to live streaming video from the nest. You will assist in monitoring, analysing and editing the nest camera data. You will be expected to welcome visitors, and work with volunteers who help them view the birds and have an enjoyable visit. You will have the opportunity to represent the Trust at local events and participate in events such as guided walks and school visits, with the option to take the lead on delivering some sessions.

Staff and volunteer responsibilities

Assist staff in developing and maintaining an effective support group for the reserves including working with other volunteers and others from community initiatives. You will be expected to participate and help with conservation work parties, with a view to eventually leading your own work parties.

Monitoring and Surveys

The sites are home to a number of rare species, some of which are monitored by the Trust. You will be participating in monitoring the ospreys, white-faced darter dragonflies and butterflies. Recent dissertations have been carried out into the adder population on site.

Stakeholder Liaison

Assist staff in developing sound working relationships with a range of stakeholders. Promote the interests of Cumbria Wildlife Trust in the wider community and develop effective partnership working.

Administration

Respond to telephone calls, e-mails and other enquiries. Ensure all CWT administrative documentation is completed. Assist with the recording and analysis of data from reserve monitoring work.

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.

*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 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 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.