

Job Description



Title: Apprentice Conservation Officer (Southern Reserves)

Weekly Hours: 35 hours per week **Length of Contract:** 18 Months

Based: Cumbria Wildlife Trust's head office at Plumgarths, near Kendal.

Reports To: Southern Reserves Officer, including Smardale, Foulshaw Moss & South Walney.

Job Purpose: to support the Reserves Team to deliver their annual work programme.

Special Features of the Role: This role is part of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust's Green Futures programme and will include paid time off to complete a Level 2 Countryside Worker apprenticeship at Craven College and other work related training. The salary for this role is in accordance with National Apprenticeship rates. Some evening and weekend working may be required.

Job Description: The Nature reserves department delivers the Trust's aims of *"supporting and encouraging action to create an environment in Cumbria richer in wildlife, prevent further losses of species, wildlife habitats and geological features and encourage their sustainable management."*

The Apprentice Conservation Officer will support the team of reserves staff working on nature reserves in south Cumbria in ensuring the good management of a suite of high quality nature reserves. This will involve hands-on practical work, working with contractors, dealing with the public, working with volunteers and species monitoring.

They will support the Reserves Team in delivering the wide ranging aims of this department. A good 'people person' will throw themselves into the busy, varied and often demanding work of the Reserves department showing flexibility and willingness to assist team members as required.

The Apprentice Conservation Officer will have the following responsibilities & accountabilities:

Practical site management for nature conservation

- Working alongside the reserves team the Apprentice Conservation Officer will assist with a wide variety of practical conservation task across a large suite of nature reserves of national and international importance. Habitats and tasks may include:
 - Peatland restoration
 - Woodland management
 - Scrub management
 - Infrastructure maintenance and repairs
 - Involvement in the running of the Foulshaw Moss osprey project

Supporting and engaging volunteers, members, visitors and the public

- Cumbria Wildlife Trust relies heavily on the support of its volunteers and members, which involves:
 - Running conservation days with volunteers
 - Managing and liaising with Osprey Watch volunteers
 - Providing face to face information to the public at Foulshaw Moss & South Walney

Monitoring habitats and species

- Mapping and monitoring of habitats
- Undertaking species surveys
- Writing management plans
- GIS mapping of sites.

Promote the work of the Trust

- Working closely with the Marketing team the Apprentice Conservation Officer will seek opportunities for promotion of the Trusts work through the following:
 - Writing articles for internal and/or external publications;
 - Assisting Trust staff at shows and events.
 - Promoting the work of the Trust through social media.
 - Assisting with osprey related comms during the summer

Other work

- Opportunities to work with other CWT departments and projects.
- Any additional duties as outlined in the Annual Work Plan;
- Any other duties that may reasonably arise from time to time;
- All tasks and responsibilities to be carried out in accordance with our policies and procedures.

Training will be provided for the apprentice in order to fulfil the above duties and will include a Level 2 Countryside Worker Apprenticeship course taught by Craven College.

Due to the location of the nature reserves applicants will need their own transport, however travel expenses will be reimbursed. This apprenticeship would suit a person who has an interest in natural history and some previous experience of working outdoors. Good organisation skills, and an ability to work and communicate with people of all ages is also important.

To apply please visit <https://www.ydmt.org/apprenticeships>

The deadline for applications is 30 August 2022. Interviews will be held shortly after the closing date.

For further information regarding the placement roles please contact Jo Boulter - YDMT Apprenticeships Co-ordinator for an informal chat on 015242 51002

Date: August 2022