

# Job Description

**Job Title:** Foulney Island Seasonal Warden

**Weekly Hours:** 35

**Based At:** Foulney Island Nature Reserve

**Reports To:** Southern Reserves Officer

## **Job Purpose:**

To monitor, protect and report on the breeding bird assemblage on the Foulney Island Nature Reserve and to carry out any other day-to-day running of the reserve.

## **Special Features of the Role:**

The post holder is required to live on site (in a caravan) and will be entitled to two days off per week during the circa 4 month period, which should be worked out in advance with the line manager to ensure coverage.

Foulney Island is a remote site and contact with other CWT staff is limited in the main to telephone and visits from the South Walney and Foulney Island Nature Reserve Warden. The post holder is therefore required to act in a self-reliant and independent way. Use of a car would be a distinct advantage.

## **Main Responsibilities and Accountabilities:**

### *Survey and monitoring*

Conduct the systematic monitoring of the tern colonies to assess breeding productivity. Monitor nesting and productivity of ground nesting birds, including ringed plover, little tern, arctic tern and oystercatcher. Also monitor the eider breeding colony, the meadow pipit and skylark populations, and any other breeding birds on the reserve. Grey seal surveys are carried out from Foulney and there will be an opportunity for the post holder to take part in this project. Other duties will include vegetation monitoring.

### *Nest protection*

Ensure that the protection of nests is carried out on the reserve. Set up electric fences to protect nests from predators before nesting begins and maintain the fences throughout the season. Dismantle the fences at the end of the season. Put out egg pens on tern nests and utilise other methods of protection.

### *Visitor management*

Work with the small numbers of visitors to the reserve each day to minimise disturbance to the breeding birds.

### *Reporting*

The post-holder will be responsible for writing the daily log and all of the season's results and activities must then be written up in a final, end-of-season report.

### *Other reserve duties*

Litter picking will need to be carried out on the reserve. Other work may include some habitat/ vegetation management work as necessary and any other duties reasonably asked of the Seasonal Warden.

### *Local community liaison*

Engagement with the local community is vital to the success of the role and the post holder will be expected to actively seek ways to enthuse them about the work of the Wildlife Trust.

## **Supporting the Trust**

Be proactive in increasing the Trust's membership.

Raise the profile of Cumbria Wildlife Trust.

Seek to raise increased funds for the Trust.

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

Any additional duties as outlined in the Annual Work Programme.

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

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

**Date: January 2026**

## Person Specification

### Post Title: Foulney Island Seasonal Warden

#### 1. Qualifications & Experience

The post holder will be expected to have qualifications and recent and relevant experience in the following areas:

		Essential	Desirable
1.	General level of Education, professional qualification in a relevant subject or experience to an equivalent level	•	
2.	Experience of working/volunteering in the conservation sector.	•	
3.	Monitoring - experience in establishing and carrying out bird monitoring projects.	•	
4.	Degree in a biological science or countryside management		•
5.	Experience of working/volunteering in coastal habitats.		•
6.	Involvement with national bird surveys eg BBS, WeBS.		•
7.	Involvement with other flora/fauna surveys.		•
8.	Experience of recruiting members to a charity		•

#### 2. Knowledge & Skills

The post holder will have the following knowledge and skills:

		Essential	Desirable
1.	Identification - able to accurately identify coastal bird species and common plant species.	•	
2.	Computer literate - use of word processor spreadsheets, and email.	•	
3.	Communication - good face-to-face and written communication.	•	
4.	Full driving licence	•	
5.	Good knowledge of British birds, particularly coastal birds.	•	
6.	An understanding of customer care principles.	•	
7.	Excellent field identification skills for British birds and plants.		•
8.	Competent in giving presentations and writing articles.		•
9.	Knowledge of coastal vegetation types.		•
10.	Knowledge of other areas of British natural history		•
11.	Licensed bird ringer		•

#### 3. Personal Qualities

The post holder should possess the following:

		Essential	Desirable
1.	Able to work under own initiative.	•	
2.	Well organised, able to prioritise and meet deadlines.	•	
3.	Flexible, enthusiastic, tactful, with a positive approach to work.	•	
4.	Must be able to present a positive image of Cumbria Wildlife Trust.	•	
5.	Practical and innovative.	•	