

Job Description

Job Title: Peatland Data Officer

Weekly Hours: 35 hours per week

Based At: The role will be primarily based at Cumbria Wildlife Trust's head office at Plumgarths (Kendal, LA8 8LX) however there will be the flexibility to work from home and other Trust premises when required. There will also be some on-site working.

Reports To: Peatland Team Manager

Job Purpose:

The purpose of the job is to manage the data associated with the delivery of the Trust's peatland work, ensuring it contributes to the development and creation of a Nature Recovery Network across Cumbria. This includes projects delivered directly by the Trust and those on behalf of the Cumbria Peat Partnership. It will also include occasional work with the Trust's Land Management Advice Service.

Special Features of the Role:

Working with the PTM and Senior Peatland Conservation Officer, this role will have responsibility for managing the data associated with the Trust's Peatland Programme and developing monitoring and research opportunities to highlight the impact of our peatland work. The role will include responsibility for ensuring that data is stored and disseminated in an organised and accessible state.

Main Responsibilities and Accountabilities:

- Manage the collation of peatland survey data and GIS mapping.
- Ensure peatland survey data and GIS mapping are shared with the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre, enabling it to contribute to the county's habitat base maps that underpin the Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- Support peatland data outputs of CPP member organisations and other project partners as required.
- Increase the use of GIS within the peatland team to help enhance restoration planning and capture the benefits of the restorations, for example, using LIDAR, Digital Terrain Models, Flow Models etc.
- Increase the use of drone flights for restoration planning and documenting the conditions of sites before and after restoration.
- Installing and carrying out monitoring on sites to look at water table, peat depth, surface flow, water holding capacity, grazing impacts etc.
- Analysing data collected through the above monitoring.

- Working with volunteers to create a volunteer network that can carry out regular post-restoration checks on sites.

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 Plan and the Trust's Universal Work Plan.
- 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.

Date: February 2026

Person Specification

Post: Peatland Data Officer

1. Qualifications & Experience

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

		Essential	Desirable
1.	Conservation experience gained working within a recognised conservation organisation in a professional or voluntary capacity	•	
2.	Experience in ecological surveying and biological recording	•	
3.	Advanced mapping using G.I.S. systems	•	
4.	Experience in upland walking in hills and mountains	•	
5.	Experience managing and maintaining large datasets	•	
6.	Liaising with landowners	•	
7.	Experience in designing and implementing ecological monitoring programmes	•	
8.	Researching, evaluating and communicating environmental information	•	
9.	Partnership working with a wide variety of organisations		•
10.	Experience in presenting information orally and in writing to a variety of audiences.		•
11.	Experience in using mobile mapper devices for data collection.		•
12.	Working with volunteers to carry out citizen science monitoring		•
13.	Experience using remote sensing, drones and LIDAR to monitor habitat restoration		•

2. Knowledge & Skills

The post holder will have the following knowledge and skills:

		Essential	Desirable
1.	Identification of common upland bird, invertebrate and plant species	•	
2.	Manage and extract data on G.I.S.	•	
3.	Organise and prioritise work effectively, often to tight deadlines, and monitor outcomes	•	
4.	Focus on tasks and take them through from conception to completion	•	
5.	Full driving licence and access to a vehicle.	•	
6.	Research, analyse and interpret information	•	
7.	Good understanding of the principles and techniques involved in peatland restoration		•
8.	Peatland habitats and their management		•
9.	Policies, legislation and organisations affecting UK wildlife		•

3. Personal Qualities

The post holder should possess the following:

		Essential	Desirable
1.	Ability to maintain high levels of enthusiasm and self-motivation	•	
2.	Ability to work well on their own initiative and cooperatively as part of a team	•	
3.	Ability to be flexible and respond to changing situations	•	
4.	Tact and diplomacy	•	
5.	Ability to work effectively under pressure	•	
6.	A strong affinity with wildlife/wildlife habitats	•	
7.	Ability to work safely and remotely on upland sites in often poor weather conditions.	•	
8.	Ability to disseminate complicated information clearly and concisely to wider audiences.	•	