



## Job Description

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### Living Collection Placement

**Grade: 3**

**Directorate:** Operations

**Location:** London Wetland Centre, Barnes,  
London, SW13 9WT

**Reporting to:** Living Collections & Grounds Manager

**Overview:** We're WWT, the charity for wetlands and wildlife. We're on a mission to restore wetlands because they are a wondrous solution to the problems our world faces. Together we will unlock their power – and help nature burst back to life. Because when wetlands flourish all life will flourish.

At WWT our people are instrumental, and we want to inspire future animal keepers to help lead the way. This learning and development placement is designed to provide experience and skills development in the following areas:

- Practical animal care experience, in a wetland setting
- Experience of the workplace
- Maintenance and upkeep of grounds and facilities

You'll work within the Living Collections team, developing practical animal care experience using animal behavior and welfare knowledge. The role will involve the day-to-day care of the animals in the collection, which includes a diverse range of waterfowl, several of which are rare or endangered. You'll maintain and develop exhibits within the site to improve welfare standards for our animals and enhance the visitor experience, developing communication and presentation skills. As part of a BIAZA member zoological collection, this role is a great opportunity for someone looking for experience in animal keeping/husbandry roles.

This role is a 12-month fixed term contract.

**Supervisory responsibilities:** None

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### Responsibilities of the post

To achieve the main function of the post as set out above, the post-holder will be:

1. Carrying out daily feed presentation, including feeding routines and creating animal enrichment
2. Cleaning animal houses, enclosures, rearing facilities, and ponds, ensuring they are in good repair
3. Undertaking animal census and recording of daily routines
4. Maintaining enclosures and ponds
5. Managing vegetation within enclosures and public areas
6. Maintaining and improving fence lines, shelters and buildings
7. Conducting public feeds, talks and guided tours
8. Interacting with visitors to provide excellent customer service
9. Assisting with animal handling, health checks and medication
10. Maintaining and upkeeping of the allocated grounds areas – strimming, weeding, spraying, sweeping etc
11. Record keeping and welfare reporting
12. Assisting with pest management protocols and camera trap data

If you are required to carry out your own research project as part of your qualification, you will be supported to do so.

#### **Working with Volunteers**

1. To work alongside volunteers encouraging, developing and supporting them in their work for WWT, ensuring that they have a positive volunteering experience.

#### **Health and Safety:**

2. To be responsible for working within the WWT health and safety policy and guidelines ensuring that the health, safety and wellbeing of yourself and others is an integral part of how you work.

#### **Sustainability:**

3. To be responsible for engaging with the WWT Sustainability Statement, being aware of negative environmental impacts and incorporating sustainable ways of working within your role.

#### **Visitors and Supporters:**

4. To interact with our visitors and supporters in a positive way, shaping unforgettable experiences and helping them understand and connect to wetlands.

#### **Dealing with personal and financial data:**

5. To ensure that in the course of your work you adhere to the WWT Data Protection policy and standards.

In addition to the duties and responsibilities listed, the post holder is required to perform any other reasonable duties that may be assigned by the supervisor shown above, from time to time.

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# Person Specification

## 1. Qualifications

### *Essential:*

- A qualification (level 2 or higher) in a field applicable to the role or an equivalent level of experience

## 2. Experience and Skills

### *Essential:*

- Interested in practical animal care, with experience of carrying out husbandry tasks with a range of species

### *Desirable:*

- Able to work in a team of staff and volunteers and demonstrate good people skills
- Proactive and able to carry out tasks with minimum supervision or independently under direction
- Ability to follow instructions and safely complete activities
- Public speaking skills
- Ability to work outdoors in all weathers
- Driving licence

## 3. Managerial & Supervisory

- This post will have no managerial or supervisory requirements.

## 4. Responsibility

### *Desirable:*

- Excellent self-management skills with the ability to work independently, using own initiative and being flexible and adaptable

## General Notes

This role is full-time (10 days out of 14) and will include weekends and public holidays, as required.