



Job Description

Practical Reserve Placement

Grade: 3

Directorate: Operations

Location: London

Reporting to: Reserve Manager on site

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 conservationists to help lead the way. These learning and development placements are designed to provide experience and skills development in the following areas:

- Practical wetland reserve management
- Experience of the workplace
- Wetland conservation

You'll work within the Reserve team at London, developing an understanding of the fundamental elements of what it takes to manage a wetland for people and wildlife. These roles are a great opportunity for people looking for experience in practical conservation as a reserve warden or similar outdoor career.

This role is a 12-month fixed term contract.

Supervisory responsibilities: None

Responsibilities of the post

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

1. Assisting with all practical reserve management activities including grassland cutting, scrub control, pruning, coppicing, reed cutting and weed control
2. Involved in officially sanctioned pest control
3. Checking perimeter and other security patrols
4. Dealing with the public in a sensitive and polite way
5. Responsible for clearing and locking up the grounds, reserve and perimeter gates at the end of the day once a week, with occasional additional cover required for other members of the team (all additional hours worked will be given back at a suitable alternative time during the week)
6. Collating bird sightings on particular days of the week to inform our visitors, with some limited monitoring of water voles, reptiles and insect groups may be required depending on experience and need (all data is used to inform the reserve management)
7. Responsible for wild bird feeding stations
8. Supporting the construction and maintenance of access routes, bird hides, fences and bridges
9. Cleaning and maintaining bird hides daily
10. Undertaking agreed training to operate machinery in accordance with WWT's health & safety procedures, using all tools safely and correctly and observing and applying daily risk assessments and machinery checks

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

Duties may also include:

1. Contributing to the upkeep of the nature reserve's databases
2. Assisting with events for visitors and media related activities
3. Engaging with visitors, sharing the stories of our work, involving leading bird walks for visitors
4. Assisting with the daily running of the Visitor Centre, facilities and admissions
5. Taking due care for the safety, welfare and enjoyment of the visiting public

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.

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

Desirable:

- Interested in practical wildlife and landscape conservation, with some relevant experience
- Able to work in a team of staff and volunteers
- Proactive and able to carry out tasks with a minimum of supervision or independently under direction
- Driving licence
- Bird and other wildlife identification skills
- Familiarity with Microsoft office suite
- Ability to work outdoors in all weathers

3. Managerial & Supervisory

- This post will have no managerial or supervisory requirements.

4. Responsibility

Desirable:

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