



WWT Wetlands for life

Practical Conservation Grazing Placement at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre

The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust has a placement opportunity available for 2021-2022 to assist in the management of a breeding herd of English longhorn cattle, volunteering alongside the reserves management team. This placement will be based at the beautiful WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre in Lancashire, where much of the land is managed through conservation grazing. This opportunity will offer applicants a range of practical experiences in cattle management and grazing, as well as in wetland management and species monitoring. This post would suit those who are interested in conservation grazing and farming with livestock, have a good variety of skills, and enjoy being outside and part of small enthusiastic teams.

The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust is one of the UK's leading conservation organisations in wetland ecology with a long history of managing wetland sites and conducting research and re-introduction programmes in the UK. Our reserves are exciting places to be throughout the year. Large flocks of shoveler, wigeon and golden plover can be seen each winter, alongside the thousands of swans, and the reed fringes are a good place to spot wintering bitterns or otters. While in summer waders such as redshank and lapwing nest in the grasslands and dragonflies cruise the waterways. Water voles are a common sight in spring and summer, and there's always a variety of reptiles and amphibians.

While successful candidates will need to commit to volunteer at WWT Martin Mere for 52 weeks, volunteering for approximately 37.5 hours per week, which may include weekends, there will be excellent opportunities to develop useful skills for the UK job market in areas of ecology, conservation grazing and reserves management. A training package relevant to the role will be given, which may include: animal husbandry, brushcutter, ATV, 4x4 and tractor driving training. Volunteers are entitled to 25 days holiday during their placement. If volunteering as a student placement, you will be able to carry out your own research project if required by your university as part of your assessment, supported by friendly WWT staff with significant experience in their field. Although the placement will be unpaid, accommodation can be provided. Please note that all volunteer roles have an associated Risk Assessment and these are being regularly reviewed and updated to reflect any guidelines or restrictions imposed as part of ongoing measures for the Covid-19 pandemic. Full risk assessments for WWT can be provided on request.

For more information, and to apply for the role, please visit

<http://www.wwt.org.uk/placements>

Closing date for applications is Monday 16th November 2020.

Interviews will be held on the week commencing the 30th November 2020.

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