



## Job Description

### Student Placement – Conservation Evidence

**Grade:** Early Careers

**Directorate:** Conservation

**Location:** WWT Slimbridge Wetlands Centre

**Reporting to:** Research Coordinator

**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. This learning and development placement is designed to provide experience and skills development in the following areas:

- Applied conservation research
- Experience of the workplace
- Wetland conservation.

You'll work within the Conservation Evidence team. The role includes field, laboratory and desk-based work, including field surveys and monitoring, examination of samples and specimens in the laboratory, data analysis, GIS, and generally supporting our team of scientists. Working as part of an internationally renowned research team, this role is a great opportunity for someone looking to develop experience in an applied research environment.

## Responsibilities of the post

Core duties will include the following:

1. Carrying out the bimonthly laboratory analysis of water/wastewater samples from our centres, including the collection of water samples at the Slimbridge centre.
2. Assisting with general laboratory tasks such as housekeeping and managing stock levels.
3. Assisting with practical research and monitoring activities in the field and in the laboratory.
4. Attending team and project meetings as required.
5. Carrying out all mandatory and additional training required to work at WWT and to undertake duties.
6. Working with other team members, including volunteers, to deliver on projects.

Additional duties may include the following:

7. Undertaking literature reviews to aid or inform WWT's conservation work.
8. Desk based data entry and data analysis.
9. Attending project meetings and participating in workshops on current conservation issues.

If you are required to carry out your own project as part of your qualification, you will be supported to do so, agreeing with your line manager the subject, scope and parameters of your project to be in line with your course requirements and supporting WWT's strategic direction.

There will be opportunities for further areas of work to be explored according to the interests of the postholder.

### Working at WWT

1. When necessary, to work alongside volunteers encouraging, developing and supporting them in their work for WWT, ensuring that they have a positive volunteering experience.
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.
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.
4. To interact with our visitors and supporters in a positive way, shaping unforgettable experiences and helping them understand and connect to wetlands.
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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**Date raised: December 2023**

# Person Specification

## 1. Qualifications

### *Essential:*

- Studying a relevant course which requires, or allows, a one year practical placement. Please note that this training placement is targeted at, and designed for, students. However, it is not essential that you are a current student.

## 2. Experience and skills

### *Desirable:*

- Interest in nature conservation research and some relevant experience
- Basic laboratory experience and health and safety awareness (training will be available)
- Computer literate, with a good practical knowledge of MS Office
- Have the ability to develop scientific ideas and design a suitable student research project
- Ability to work in a team of staff and volunteers in Conservation Evidence and other departments
- Are confident amongst a range of people including citizen scientists and other volunteers.
- Are able to participate in team and department meetings as appropriate
- Proactive and able to carry out tasks with a minimum of supervision or independently under direction of the Conservation Evidence team
- Ability to follow instructions and manage time efficiently
- Some experience in GIS/statistical skills (training will be available).
- Ability to manage small research projects
- Ability to drive

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## General Notes

This position will from time to time require work during some evenings, weekends and public holidays to meet the needs of the post.