



Job Description

Student Placement – Reserves Management HQ: Office and Research

Grade: Early Careers

Directorate: Conservation

Location: WWT Slimbridge Wetlands Centre

Reporting to: Research Coordinator, working closely with the Head of Reserves Management.

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:

- Strategic Wetland Reserve management
- Experience of the workplace
- Wetland conservation.

You'll work within the central Reserves Management and Conservation Evidence teams, developing an understanding of the co-ordination and strategic side of reserves management. The role includes desk and field based research, project design and data analysis. This role is a great opportunity for someone looking for experience in conservation and reserves management.

Responsibilities of the post

1. Assisting with the upkeep of a biological recording system (Recorder 6), providing support to users and undertaking data entry.
2. Assisting with desk-based tasks such as data entry, data analysis and QGIS mapping.
3. Contributing to the upkeep of the reserve databases in order to help develop and monitor reserve management plans.
4. Assisting with water quality monitoring sampling and analysis for our centres, including the collection of water samples at the Slimbridge centre.
5. Assisting with research and monitoring activities, helping to design and carry out research projects to aid or inform reserves management.
6. Participating in a range of research projects related to wetland species and conservation.
7. Attending team and project meetings and participating in workshops on current conservation issues.
8. Carrying out all mandatory and additional training required to work at WWT and to undertake duties.
9. Working with other team members, including volunteers, to deliver on projects.

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 and the Head of Reserves Management the subject, scope and parameters of your project to be in line with your course requirements and supporting WWT's strategic direction.

Working at WWT

1. When necessary, 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.

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:

- Interested in reserve management.
- Computer literate, with a good practical knowledge of MS Office.
- GIS skills.
- Able to work in a team of staff and volunteers, and demonstrate good people skills.
- Proactive and able to carry out tasks with a minimum of supervision or independently under direction.
- Ability to follow instructions and safely complete activities.
- Able to develop the required skills to assist other, potentially more senior staff, in areas of work where they may have limited experience.
- Ability to develop scientific ideas and design suitable research project.
- Ability, after training, to give talks as well as to answer the general enquiries of staff and volunteers

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.