

URE CONNECTED PROJECT INTERN



Job description

Post title:	Project Intern
Line managed by:	Project Manager
Status:	Part-time (30 hours per week) for 8-month fixed-term contract
Wage:	£11.44 per hour

Background

The Lower Ure Conservation Trust (LUCT) has been successful in securing a grant through the National Lottery Heritage Fund for a two-and-a-half-year project focused around the lower Ure Valley. The project's aim is to increase capacity for nature conservation and restoration on undermanaged Priority Habitats in the area while also increasing engagement with the local community.

At the heart of this is the 100-hectare Nosterfield Nature Reserve; generally regarded as North Yorkshire's premier wet grassland reserve, including one of the County's largest reedbeds. The reserve is home to important breeding populations of birds such as lapwing, curlew, redshank and avocet as well as numerous orchids and rare invertebrates. Our work also takes place across the lower Ure Valley at several satellite sites with high conservation value such as magnesian limestone grassland, species-rich meadow and fen.

The project will also focus on widening the audience of Nosterfield Nature Reserve and embedding the reserve more in the communities that surround it to inspire more people to help care for the reserve and the wildlife it holds. Engagement will include putting on events, task days for the local community and young people and forest school session. We will also be working with local charity, Dementia Forward, to test and trial new ways for nature to improve well-being for those with early onset dementia and their families.

Main purpose of the job

Based at Nosterfield Nature Reserve, the role will be responsible for assisting the Project Manager & Community Engagement Officer with the delivery of the Ure Connected project funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

This will be a varied role, taking in aspects of both practical conservation work and community engagement. As a very small organisation and project team, the intern will play a vital role in successful completion of the project.

Regular duties

- Undertaking practical countryside and heritage conservation tasks including invasive species removal, vegetation management, tree cutting and plant propagation work
- Working with volunteers and leading work parties
- Infrastructure & equipment maintenance
- Ecological surveying

- Assisting with events programme
- Assisting with educational sessions for school children
- Assisting with community, young person & Dementia Forward volunteering days
- Assisting with production & installation of interpretation at Nosterfield Nature Reserve
- Contributing to social media output
- Health & safety checks
- Administration and database maintenance
- Creating and undertaking volunteer or visitor surveys

Appropriate training will be given for each task and ongoing support provided by the Project Manager.

Person Specification

Essential criteria – vital requirements for the post holder

- Previous experience of practical conservation work and volunteering
- Demonstrable passion for UK wildlife, conservation & public engagement
- General knowledge of UK habitats and species
- An ability to work proactively and to show initiative
- Confident meeting new people and representing the charity
- Good level of physical fitness and able to undertake strenuous manual labour
- Prepared to work in outdoor settings in all weather
- A strong work ethic, enthusiasm, and a willingness to learn new skills
- Ability to work well within a team
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- IT literate
- Car driver and access to personal transport
- Willingness to work some early mornings & weekend days

Desirable criteria – additional requirements relevant to the post

- Experience of community engagement (assisting with events, educational activities etc)
- Good wildlife identification skills
- Knowledge of wetland species & habitats (wet grassland, reedbed, fen)
- Basic DIY skills

Working hours

The working hours of this role will generally be carried out Tuesday - Friday, but some weekend working will be required i.e. when assisting with events.

Location

You will be expected to be on-site for the majority of the time, but on occasion, home working may be required. IT equipment will be provided.

Standard Accountability Statements:

Health & Safety

You are required to comply with Health and Safety Policy and to take such steps as are reasonably practicable for your own health and safety and that of your colleagues at work and those affected by

your work. You must comply with your safety responsibilities and must co-operate with management in all respects for the full implementation of the organisations Health and Safety Policy.

Equality & Diversity

The post holder must adhere to all policies and procedures relating to equality and diversity in the workplace and provision of services.

Learning & Personal Development

The post holder has a personal responsibility for his or her own learning and development and will maintain up to date records of achievement and attendance as required. The post holder must undertake the learning and training that is identified and agreed with their manager.