

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION



Volunteer Role / Title
Residential Species Protection Officer (Volunteer)
Location
Loch of the Lowes reserve, Dunkeld, Perthshire
How many volunteers are needed?
2
How many hours per day/per week are you needed?
Mid March to early June – rotational shift rota to provide a 24-hour protection. This could involve unsociable hours shifts and could include weekends. Much will depend on the timing of the breeding season.
On which days are you needed?
You will be needed for 5 out of 7 days per week.
On which date do we want you to start?
Late March 2020
End Date (if applicable)
Early June depending on the breeding season.
Minimum commitment we require from you.
5 days per week. We aim to keep hours below 35 per week.
Objectives of your role
<u>Osprey Species Protection</u> Working on a rota system you will be responsible for carrying out the surveillance of the osprey nest and surrounding area, including monitoring the osprey behaviour for incidents of disturbance. Occasionally you may be required to approach members of the public in event of potential or suspected disturbance and point out the law regarding Schedule One breeding birds. This may require further liaising with the Wildlife Crime Officer. Each day will see you working in a cooperative manner with the Perthshire Ranger, Visitor Centre staff and daily local volunteers. There may be opportunity to engage with members of the public who are visiting the hides about the ospreys and the other wildlife on the reserve. Further duties include monitoring the beaver population around the reserve, mainly by reviewing camera footage, contributing to regular social media and blog posts and the opportunity exists to get involved in delivering weekly public 'Beaverwatch' events.

<p>Tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and surveying the site for any potential osprey disturbance • Investigating and approaching members of the public regarding any incidents of potential disturbance • Observing and recording osprey behaviour • Engaging with members of the public in hides and liaising with daily local volunteers and visitor's centre staff, particularly during dayshifts • Monitoring the beaver populations around the reserve by reviewing camera footage • Contributing to regular blogs, social media content • Presenting weekly 'Beaverwatch' evenings • Helping to produce an end of season Osprey Report
<p>Description of the skills/qualifications/fitness required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability and experience of living in a residential setting as part of a small team • Able to work unsociable hours in our on-site hides, including occasional nightshifts • Ability to work in a flexible manner • Ability to engage & communicate positively with local volunteers and members of the public • Basic computer literacy skills, including the use of spreadsheets • Good observational skills and attention to detail • Good organisational and time keeping skills • Reasonable standard of fitness • Experience of public speaking and video editing beneficial • Own transport and first aid qualification an advantage
<p>Support/training</p> <p>All support will be provided by our in-house staff and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Osprey species ecology training • Gain experience in species protection • Gain experience in visitor engagement and delivering events • Gain experience in video editing and social media blogging • Optics and staff uniform provided • On-site accommodation in an eco-bothy
<p>Who is the contact person/line manager for enquiries?</p> <p>Sara 'Raz' Rasmussen, Perthshire Ranger perthshireranger@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk</p>
<p>Closing date for applications</p> <p>Friday 31st January 2020.</p>
<p>When will interviews be held?</p> <p>Interviews by skype or face to face will be held on 10th February and can include overnight stay if needed to allow candidates to see facilities and accommodation first-hand.</p>
<p>Can SWT provide expenses e.g. for travel, special clothing?</p> <p>Reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed for use of own vehicle on Trust business.</p> <p>Trust branded clothing will be provided.</p>

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Transport
For those without transport some assistance to visit local shops will be made available.
Will we want references before appointing?
We will undertake reference checks.
Other
<p>Please note, volunteers must be available for the whole Osprey Watch period (late March to early June).</p> <p>Owing to the nature of the role, we can only consider those aged 18 or above.</p> <p>FREE accommodation will be provided in the on-site eco-bothy.</p> <p>Unfortunately, disabled access is not available.</p>