

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION



Volunteer Role / Title
Volunteer Grey Squirrel Dispatcher – Solway Forests Red Squirrel Network
Location
Solway area from Dalbeattie to New Abbey
How many volunteers are needed?
One
How many hours per day/per week are you needed?
There will be a minimum of four trapping days per month; up to ideally eight to ten trapping days per month.
On which days are you needed?
Any day the traps are operational and any day that you have said you are available for on-call dispatching.
On what date do we want you to start?
ASAP
End Date (if applicable)
n/a
Minimum commitment we require from you (eg 1 day per week for 6 months). If any.
One day a week for four months.
Objective(s) of your volunteer role
Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels are working to deliver red squirrel conservation in South Scotland. We want to prevent the invasive non-native grey squirrel from replacing red squirrels in South Scotland and reduce occurrences of squirrel pox transmission from grey to red squirrel populations. Grey squirrel control is delivered by a combination of project staff, landowners funded via the Forestry Grant Scheme, and volunteers all trapping grey squirrels in carefully chosen project areas. You'll be an ambassador for the project, providing support to the Solway Forests Red Squirrel Network, Conservation Officer and partner organisations to deliver the project's aims in the Dalbeattie, Solway Coast and New Abbey area.
Tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Liaising with local trap hosts.• Carrying out humane dispatch of grey squirrels.• Trap placement, setting and maintenance.• Record keeping.

Description of the personal attributes/skills/qualifications required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Specifically</i> local to the Dalbeattie, Solway Coast & New Abbey area. • Enthusiastic about protecting red squirrels. • Diplomatic & tactful – able to explain Project strategy and encourage others to get involved. • Relevant training and/or experience in humane animal dispatch. • Full clean driver's licence.
Support/training?
Training in basic first aid, trap maintenance, dispatch methods, risk assessments and trapping materials will be offered to the right candidates.
Who is the contact person/line manager for enquiries?
Steve McKillop, Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels – smckillop@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk
Closing date for applications
19/06/2023 – (the role may be filled from applications prior to this date)
When will interviews be held?
No date set (we will recruit as suitable candidates apply)
Can SWT provide expenses e.g. for travel or branded clothing?
Some travel expenses paid to cover fuel costs at a rate of 35p per mile.
Will you want references for volunteers before appointing or PVG disclosure?
We will check references.
Other (Any age restriction, lifts available? Disabled access?)
A good level of fitness will be advantageous. Business car insurance desirable.