

## Volunteer Role Description

<b>Role title:</b>
Wildlife Trainee (Conservation) in West Berkshire Land Management Team
<b>Based at location:</b>
BBOWT, 'Estovers', Greenham and Crookham Common, Burys Bank Road, Thatcham, Near Newbury, Berkshire RG19 8BZ
<b>Purpose of the role:</b>
To assist the Land Management Team with the management of nature reserves in Berkshire
<b>Type of activities you will be involved in:</b>
<p>Wildlife Trainees will join a team carrying out conservation and access tasks across our nature reserves in Berkshire, predominantly in West Berkshire.</p> <p>The largest part of the time involves practical, outside, physical tasks on nature reserves to help restore and improve habitats for wildlife and maintaining the infrastructure like gates, signs and fencing. The management of these reserves is strongly supported by volunteers, including a weekly volunteer team which the Trainees would lead. Trainees would also help to look after the herd of Exmoor and Dartmoor ponies as well as occasional assistance with cattle and sheep. There would also be an opportunity to assist with some species and habitat surveys and with the preparation and delivery of the occasional community event or corporate task. There will also be opportunities to assist with environmental education projects.</p>
<b>Experience &amp;/or qualifications needed:</b>
<p><b>Essential:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desire to work in UK wildlife conservation</li> <li>• Some previous experience of practical conservation</li> <li>• A good level of physical fitness</li> <li>• Willingness to use power tools</li> <li>• Ability to interact with a range of people</li> <li>• Willingness to supervise and lead others</li> <li>• Willingness to develop skills and high standards of workmanship</li> </ul> <p><b>Desirable:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanical aptitude</li> <li>• Relevant education and /or volunteer experience</li> <li>• Valid driving licence and willingness to drive utility vehicles</li> <li>• Some livestock experience</li> </ul>
<b>Times/days we would like you to be available:</b>
A commitment to three days a week for 6 to 12 months is required. Actual days: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9am to 5pm.
<b>Benefits to volunteer &amp; possible training opportunities:</b>
The day-to-day learning experience will enable Trainees to become familiar with a wide variety of skills in land management including use of hand tools, power tools, powered machinery and off road vehicles as well as learning the practical management and rationale from BBOWT staff. Trainees will also receive a substantial amount of internal training, covering habitat management,

species identification, surveying, community engagement, brushcutter use and interview training. There is also external accreditation offered including First Aid at Work and the NPTC Chainsaw for felling small trees.

The role would suit anyone at the beginning of a career in conservation or the environmental sector. In past years Trainees from Berkshire have taken positions including an Assistant Land Management Officer at a Local Wildlife Trust, a warden at a Council country park and an ecological surveyor for an AONB. The job positions have also included a Countryside Ranger, a Warden, Seasonal Wardens, Estate Management Assistant on a private estate and commencement of a Masters Degree.

**You will be responsible to:**

Land Management Officer (Access)

**Expenses payable:**

Travel expenses of 20 pence per mile are available (including bicycle travel) up to £175 per month