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**Fish For Tees Project Officer**

**Job Description**

**Salary:** £competitive

**Location:** Based across North East England

**Purpose**

To work in a team delivering a National Lottery Green Recovery Challenge Fund grant funded project to reintroduce native oysters and seagrass meadows in the Tees Estuary. The Project Officer will support the Fish for Tees team in a broad range of tasks including fieldwork, surveying, management planning, monitoring and sampling as well as gaining experience in reporting activities and permitting processes. The individual we are looking for will be an ambitious team player with a strong aptitude for project delivery.

Based within Tees Rivers Trust’s small team, you will have excellent opportunities to work collaboratively within a friendly, multi-disciplinary team of conservation professionals. You will work in a mobile and agile way to deliver the aims of the project programme. Main objectives of the role include:

* Recreation of estuarine habitat through trialling the restoration of native oysters and sea grass meadows.
* Contributing to the design and implementation of estuarine restoration projects including native oyster and seagrass reintroductions.
* Providing training and guidance for volunteers related to field restoration work and nursery operations and assisting with running engagement events for local schools and local community groups.
* Data entry and database management: collect data on oyster and seagrass growth and survival at restoration sites and restoration site monitoring

**Main Duties & Responsibilities**

* To support the Programme Manager in project management and reporting activities, including financial reporting, as well as management of contractors.
* Work with the Project Manager and external regional leads on similar projects to provide local advice to the project for its successful delivery and long-term sustainability of the habitat restoration.
* Gather and share local knowledge relevant to the project and restoration activities being carried out
* Responsible for checking, maintaining and scientific monitoring of oyster and sea grass nurseries and environmental parameters of the identified project sites.
* Responsible for checking the oyster and seagrass project equipment list and reporting back to the Project Manager and Technical Lead
* To lead on the collection of seagrass seeds from selected project sites, including securing consents where needed.
* Responsible for the appropriate and safe use and maintenance of field survey and other scientific equipment for use on projects
* To carry out water quality sampling, biological sampling and other aquatic surveys as needed within the River Tees catchment.
* Support and lead engagement with local communities and stakeholders as part of project delivery and promote the project in the local community via social media channels, websites and regular blog posts.
* Support and lead (under supervision) the organisation of outdoor public volunteer events and support the co-ordination of volunteers.
* To attend regular internal and external meetings as required.
* To work in a flexible manner and to undertake any other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned from time to time, which are commensurate with the grade of the job.
* To carry out all of the above duties with full regard to the Trust’s Equal Opportunities, Non-Discrimination, Safeguarding, Environmental, Health and Safety policies.

Our ideal candidate would be educated to degree level or equivalent in an appropriate subject such as ecology, biology, marine biology or environmental science and have at least 3 years’ experience in a relevant field.

**Experience & Knowledge**

***Essential***

Experience of working as part of a science/conservation/policy project and of delivering marine conservation or research projects

Experience of undertaking field work

Have relevant experience of working with volunteers, partner organisations and communities in implementing conservation projects

Working knowledge of GIS packages

***Desirable***

Experience of obtaining planning permissions and marine licenses for works.

Extensive and current knowledge of estuarine processes, estuarine habitats, habitat restoration and saltwater ecology.

An understanding of current issues facing the estuarine environment of the Tees and the surrounding coastal areas.

**Communication Skills**

***Essential***

Good technical report writing and presentation skills.

Experience delivering educational outreach sessions and public engagement activities

Experience in using a wide range of communication methods, including use of social media

Good interpersonal skills with a wide range of people.

Ability to build strong working relationships within the Trust and with external partners/organisations.

***Desirable***

Experience of presenting at regional or national events.

**Self-Management**

***Essential***

Excellent organisational skills, self-motivation and ability to progress work with limited supervision.

Ability to work to tight deadlines and prioritise workload.

Ability to develop creative solutions and ideas.

**Personal Attributes**

***Essential***

A keen interest in, and firm commitment to, conservation and ecology.

A positive team player who is willing to play their part in achieving team targets.

Flexible and adaptable approach with ability to be pragmatic and find creative solutions to problems.

Full driving license and access to own vehicle for work purposes.

Comfortable lone working where necessary.

Able to work occasional weekends and evenings where necessary.