

## Job Description - Nature Networks Manager (PB4)

### Job summary

As Nature Networks Manager, you will lead the spatial planning and delivery of a strategic network of interconnected habitats across the nation's forests. This initiative aims to create 15,000 hectares of dynamic habitat corridors along rides (forest roads), watercourses, and Priority Ecological Corridors. The aim is to improve ecological connectivity and enable species movement at a landscape scale. You will be responsible for overseeing the distribution of secured funding to delivery teams of £1-3M per year. Funds can support any action or role contributing to the establishment and management of Nature Networks, including wide rides, watercourse buffer zones, dedicated habitat corridors, grazing infrastructure, building volunteer groups, or developing in-house management teams. Using cutting-edge data tools and collaborative approaches, you will drive biodiversity enhancement by ensuring Nature Networks support species movement, ecological processes, and long-term restoration goals.

### Key responsibilities & accountabilities

- Overseeing the implementation of Nature Networks across the nation's forests. This includes working closely with Forest Planners to develop plans and processes for integrating Nature Networks and dynamic habitats into forest planning.
- Coordinating funding allocation of £1-3M/annum to local teams, ensuring resources are targeted effectively to support network delivery and maintenance.
- Support delivery teams to develop approaches for creating and maintaining Nature Networks, including habitat management techniques such as mowing and grazing, and developing approaches to the use of volunteers.
- Mapping and analysing existing ecological infrastructure (e.g. 3-zone rides, watercourse buffer zones) using internal and external datasets to identify opportunities for enhancing habitat connectivity - This will include when and how we utilise established connectivity mapping tools (e.g. Circuitscape, Condatis).
- Engaging stakeholders and internal teams to embed connectivity thinking into operational practices and promote best practice across the organisation.

And any other tasks, reasonably requested by your line manager.

### Skills, knowledge & experience

#### Essential professional and technical experience

- Proven experience in forest or environmental management, ideally with a focus on nature restoration.
- Excellent project or programme management skills, with the ability to coordinate across teams and disciplines.
- Excellent understanding of ecological principles and how they may be integrated into the forest planning process.
- Ability to interpret scientific evidence and translate it into practical guidance.
- Strong communication, influencing, and change management skills, with experience in stakeholder engagement and internal communications.
- Proficiency in GIS and spatial analysis, ideally in connectivity mapping tools.

### **Desirable professional and technical experience**

- Advanced analytical or scientific research skills.

