

Job Description - Wildlife ranger / New Forest keeper (PB6a/op)

Job summary

You will work as part of the district's wildlife management team, protecting forests and supporting conservation priorities, including mammal management. You will be a champion for our health and safety culture by demonstrating our value of 'look out and look after'.

Key responsibilities & accountabilities

- Promote a positive and inclusive culture, and actively promote collaboration and support across the district and with stakeholders.
- Champion our health & safety culture, using Forestry England's systems and protocols.
- Achieve a personal, variable cull of deer and other mammals to protect our forest crop and biodiversity led by District management plans and wider organisational objectives.
- Make sure the deer larder, deer carcasses and paperwork meet Forestry England standards, game dealer specification and the requirements of the British Quality Wild Venison scheme (BQWV).
- Contribute to district conservation projects and schemes.
- Build and maintain productive relationships with stakeholders.
- Liaise regularly with district colleagues and help with beat planning, monitoring and delivery including restocking plans, species choice, tree protection and infrastructure requirements.
- Do ecological and pre-operation site surveys, advising colleagues of protected species and features of ecological interest.
- Liaise with sporting tenants and sporting rights holders.
- Support district colleagues engaging with woodland users and promote positive behaviour for protecting forest habitats and infrastructure.
- Produce hazard and constraints maps and risk assessments for deer management.
- Maintain and be responsible for all equipment issued to you by Forestry England.
- Supervise wildlife management and conservation contracts to Forestry England's policy, procedure and guidance (PGs), deer management-related policies and industry best practice.

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

Skills, knowledge & experience

Essential professional and technical experience

- Experience in wildlife (deer) management and wildlife conservation.
- Experience in land management and conservation.
- Good understanding of woodland management and woodland ecology.
- Experience of using effective communication skills to convey messages to a variety of audiences.
- Competent IT user with experience in MS Office suite of applications.
- Be able to manage a deer dog to Forestry England's standard.

Desirable professional and technical experience

- Experience of building management.

Qualifications

Essential

- DMQ deer stalker's certificates levels 1 and 2 including 'trained hunter' status and/or industry equivalent qualification.
- Current police firearms certificate.
- Full UK driving license.

Desirable

- Qualification in wildlife or conservation land management such as a BTEC National Diploma.
- European protected species (EPS) handling licences.
- Driving license category B E or be willing to obtain this during your probation.
- Appropriately trained in the safe use of Sit-Astride ATVs (Quad Bikes) or be willing to obtain this within the probationary period.
- Forestry First Aid F+.