

## Job description - Species recovery officer (PB5)

### Job summary

As Species Recovery Officer, you will lead innovative nature recovery projects that deliver Forestry England's national Biodiversity Plan.

Your role will lead on projects to restore ecosystem engineers and keystone species that help to build fully functioning ecosystems (focus area 4 of our Biodiversity Plan). In Yorkshire, our focus is on restoring wild living beaver populations in the Derwent Catchment and delivering a pine marten recovery feasibility project for Northeast Yorkshire. You will also lead and/or coordinate other approved species recovery projects, such as soil fungi translocations and recovery of Northern Hairy Wood Ant populations.

You will be responsible for all elements of our species recovery projects, from feasibility to planning, delivery, and monitoring. Most of our species recovery projects are delivered in partnership with other organisations, so to succeed in this role you will need to be a strong partnership worker, an effective communicator and proficient at project management. You will also have practical experience of land management and nature recovery projects.

This role will sit within our Planning and Environment Team and will work closely with Forestry England colleagues across Yorkshire and in our national Forest Wilding Programme. You will be a part of our Forest Wilding Network, which includes colleagues working on species recovery and reintroductions across England.

You can expect to spend up to one third of your time outdoors, often independently and remotely and you will usually be expected to manage your own time to maximise efficiency and effectiveness.

### Key responsibilities & accountabilities

- lead on the planning and delivery of species recovery projects across the Yorkshire Forest District.
- develop a wild-release beaver project application for the Derwent Catchment, and if successful, lead the project's delivery with partner organisations
- coordinate and contribute to the Northeast Yorkshire Pine Marten Pathways Project, a two-year multi-partner project looking into the feasibility of pine marten recovery
- deliver practical project work either directly or through contractors -this may include habitat improvements, animal trapping and relocation, or field surveys, depending on each project's needs
- build and maintain good relationships with partners in statutory and eNGO nature conservation organisations, including sitting on project boards and working groups
- support funding bids and project development procedures, including monitoring and reporting on project performance to funders and senior leadership
- manage and coordinating volunteers for species recovery projects
- working with the District Ecologist and external experts to produce and deliver question-led monitoring & evaluation plans
- supporting the ecology team's wider work as required - this may include activities such as operational site assessments, contract management and supervision, and protected site management

### General responsibilities

- display Forest England's values & behaviours across all aspects of work
- minimise filing backlogs and prioritise workload to meet targets

- present a friendly and professional appearance
- be familiar with and appropriately adhere to Forestry England policies and procedures
- keep Health and Safety matters as the overriding determinant at all times and in all circumstances
- undertake any other duties, reasonably requested by the Planning and Environment Manager or Forest Management Director

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

The duties of this post require the applicant to sometimes travel to remote locations that are not accessible by public transport. You will therefore need to hold a full and current driving licence that enables you to drive in the UK. We are willing to consider any proposals put forward by applicants that would allow them to do the job by other means.

## Skills, knowledge & experience

### Essential professional and technical experience

- experience working with local stakeholder groups, including: landowners; non-governmental organisations; charities; local government; community groups. Excellent communication skills in a range of media to a variety of audiences
- familiarity with wildlife legislation, licencing, and guidance including for conservation translocations
- strong organisational skills and ability to plan own time efficiently
- competent in IT including Microsoft Office applications
- sound knowledge and understanding of ecology

### Desirable professional and technical experience

- experience working on the development and/or delivery of nature conservation and/or species recovery and reintroduction projects, with a good understanding of and the barriers and opportunities with species recovery
- experience in project management and budgeting
- experience of procurement and contract/contractor management

## Qualifications

### Essential

- ecology or environmental degree, or equivalent professional experience in nature-focussed land management
- full and current driving licence that enables you to drive in the UK

### Desirable

- member of e.g. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, British Ecological Society or local naturalist groups

