

## Job description - Wildlife ranger (PB6aops)

### Job summary

To work as part of the Wildlife Ranger and New Forest Keeper team across the South Forest District, to deliver forest protection and habitat conservation objectives through:

- controlling deer and other mammals to protect forest regeneration and biodiversity in line with wider district plans and objectives
- undertaking regular liaison with Forest District staff and assisting with beat and recreational planning, monitoring and delivery
- building and maintaining relationships with Forestry Commission (FC) and external contacts, where this benefits collaborative wildlife management and the functioning of the wider South Forest District

### Key responsibilities & accountabilities

#### Operational Responsibility:

- undertake monitoring and control of deer populations within beat following guidance from national and district policies and achieving cull targets as specified in the South England Forest District Deer Strategy
- keep and train a dog for deer carcass follow up as outlined in the current dog policy
- undertake inspection and preparation of deer carcasses in line with national Deer Management Wild Venison Standard
- provide a reliable prompt response to emergency call outs involving RTA's, fire, travellers, trespass etc and follow up incident by completing any administrative actions as required
- undertake humane and safe despatch of wild animals involved in road traffic collisions (RTCs) on or adjacent to the Forestry England (FE) estate
- monitor and control of mammals to protect restock sites, natural regeneration and sites of high conservation importance as per approved Forest Design Plans
- support beat team with dangerous tree inspections and/or operations as directed by Wildlife Manager or Beat Manager

#### Wider District Support Responsibility:

- support the beat team with planning of forest operations:
  - participate in the Operational Site Assessment (OSA) process, giving written guidance and advice to deliver conservation benefits - complete OSA paperwork to agreed deadlines
  - review and amend GIS information as required
  - attend and participate in site meetings, proactively identifying opportunities and constraints
- work within the beat team to assist in the delivery of forest operations and fulfil necessary requirements for contract management - attending pre-commencement meetings, providing advice and support
- support the Planning and Environment team to deliver conservation and habitat management, undertaking practical conservation tasks and putting forward larger improvement and maintenance programmes to the Beat Forester
- regularly check and update conservation data for your beat and report edits where necessary

- carry out prompt and thorough inspection of restock and/or stock fences as directed by Beat Manager and provide a comprehensive fence line inspection report within given timeframe

### **Stakeholder Engagement, Representation and Communications:**

- work with external stakeholders and organisations to deliver wildlife and habitat management on a landscape scale
- maintain positive relationships with neighbours and partners, always promoting FE and its work within local communities
- deal with problems in a professional manner and seek advice from support staff when required
- participate in events that take place on the estate and represent FE values, sharing knowledge and experiences in a manner that is suitable for the audience
- monitor your beat for encroachments using local procedures to deal with minor encroachments yourself and working through complex cases with the Estates team to bring about a solution

### **Health and Safety:**

- ensure that all work programmes undertaken meet Forestry England's and regulatory standards of health and safety, operational efficiency and quality of output
- ensure compliance with lone working policies and use Forestry England's lone working system when working alone
- ensure that equipment and facilities used in the delivery of duties are clean and maintained to a high standard

And any other tasks reasonably requested by your line manager.

### **Location-specific information**

It is our expectation for any successful candidate that they will live within their 'Beat.' Maps of Ringwood Beat can be found attached to this advert in a separate pdf.

## **Skills, knowledge & experience**

### **Essential professional and technical experience**

- extensive experience of firearms use, deer management including delivering large culls and carcass preparation
- experience of using effective communication skills to convey messages to a variety of audiences
- an understanding of woodland management and the ecology of woodlands and heath
- competent user of IT including Microsoft Office applications
- the ability to train a suitable dog breed as an aid for deer management
- a full UK driving licence

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

- experience in a wildlife or conservation land management role demonstrating a keen interest in nature conservation
- an EPS handling license or equivalent

## Qualifications

### Essential

- hold a higher-level deer stalking certificate
- a current Police Firearms Certificate

### Desirable

- qualification in wildlife or conservation land management, such as BTEC National Diploma, BTEC HND or BSc degree