

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

JOB DESCRIPTION

1. IDENTIFICATION OF JOB	
JOB TITLE	Bird Aware Solent – Seasonal Ranger
DEPARTMENT	Estates & Conservation Delivery
RESPONSIBLE TO	Reserves Manager Solent & IOW
RESPONSIBLE FOR	N/A
JOB LEVEL	B

2. OVERALL PURPOSE OF JOB
<p>The Solent Recreation Mitigation Project (SRMP) began in 2008 as a partnership project between fifteen Solent Local Authorities, Natural England, RSPB, Chichester Harbour Conservancy and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trusts to reduce the impact of disturbance by human activity on the Solent and Southampton Water Special Protection Area. Bird Aware Solent is the public facing brand of the SRMP. This post is one of a number of rangers co-ordinated by Hampshire County Council, covering the major wintering roost and feeding areas for wildfowl and waders in the Solent. As part of the Solent and Isle of Wight Team, the post holder will undertake patrols of Isle of Wight Solent coastal sites, talking to the public about bird disturbance issues and reporting incidents and activity to a central database co-ordinated by the lead project officer based in Hampshire. Patrols will need to be undertaken at peak times for disturbance events but also be co-ordinated with the tides so early morning, late afternoon and weekend work will be required.</p> <p>The post holder must have excellent communication skills to ensure the engagement of members of the public and secure behaviour change. They must be able to make decisions and work independently to ensure the safety of themselves and the volunteers. The post holder must be an ambassador for the Solent Recreation Mitigation Project and the Trust.</p>

3. MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES
<p>Resource Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake site patrols on the relevant stretch of coastline, engaging with visitors to raise awareness of overwintering birds on the SPAs and explain their vulnerability to human disturbance. • Deliver talks and activity sessions to community groups and schools. • Attending public events with the Bird Aware stand to engage positively with local communities about the SPAs and the overwintering birds. • Plan and deliver pop-up events. <p>Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning a programme of site patrols and events within set guidelines. • Contributing to the social media plan and other communications as necessary. • Contributing effectively to delivery plans and taking the lead on issues where appropriate. <p>Communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally – be part of a team that focuses on community liaison through day to day contact and interpretive work such as walks, talks, school visits, leaflets, social media and information displays. • Help visitors with their identification and knowledge of coastal birds. Encourage responsible behaviour by visitors including compliance with guidelines in order to avoid disturbance to birds. • Internally – maintain good working relationships within the ranger team, supporting colleagues, communicating location and progress frequently. • Maintain good working relationships with landowners, local businesses, local authorities, other statutory bodies, wildlife organisations, recreation groups, community groups and local residents.

Specialist knowledge:

- Develop and maintain a good understanding of the Solent coast, its wildlife, and the aims and responsibilities of local organisations to enable visitor questions to be dealt with appropriately and to promote a positive image of partnership working.

Maintaining accurate records:

- Maintaining accurate and up to date records of completed work, site visits and visitor interactions. Report back on project delivery.
- Maintain records, inventories and safety inspections for tools and equipment to comply with H&S and corporate requirement.

Corporate and statutory initiatives

- Maintain an awareness of statutory, corporate and departmental requirements and policies in order to apply them in the day-to-day job requirements - e.g.
- H &S, Risk Assessments, Equalities, Biodiversity, Sustainability
- To include specific devolved H&S responsibility for sites, self and others, items of equipment and assessments for risk and COSHH
- Awareness of appropriate legislation such as Countryside and Rights of Way Act, Habitats regulations, etc.

4. JOB SPECIFICATION / SCOPE OF ROLE

- This role has everyday contact with Bird Aware Solent Staff, SRMP staff, Trust Staff, volunteers and you will be in regular contact with members of the public whilst carrying out your duties.
- There is no delegated authority, budgetary or management responsibility within the role.
- Out of hours work may be required as part of the role. Any extra hours worked will result in time of in lieu being granted.
- Full clean driving license essential.

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PERSON SPECIFICATION

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Below is the list of experience, knowledge, skills and personal qualities desirable for the above role.

Area A EXPERIENCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating and engaging with the public • Conflict avoidance and resolution • Self managing but capable of working as part of a team • Outdoor practical work • Volunteer supervision
Area B KNOWLEDGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of conservation issues and ecological processes • Awareness of international legislation and protected areas • Knowledge of the three SPA areas and associated protected species • Knowledge of Health & Safety and Risk assessment processes.
Area C SKILLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent surveying and monitoring skills as well as good general ID skills and excellent coastal bird identification skills • Excellent organisational and record keeping skills • Excellent data collection and data entry skills • Communication skills • Full clean driving licence • IT skills including Facebook, Twitter, Excel
Area D PERSONAL QUALITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self managing but capable of working as part of a team • A flexible approach towards delivering a wide range of SRMP and Trust objectives • Able to take initiative and demonstrate assertiveness in a range of situations • Excellent interpersonal skills • Able to fulfil travel requirements of the role • Able to fulfil the physical requirements of the role.

Working Conditions:

The following section provides an outline of the working conditions that may be encountered in this role.

- Weekend and early morning/late evening working will be required
- Moving and handling of objects up to 15kg, on a daily basis
- Display Screen Equipment user – laptop or desktop PC
- Lone working on remote stretches of the Isle of Wight coast
- Significant interaction with the public
- Occasional exposure to verbal abuse and/or aggression
- Outdoor work - working in a hot or cold environment, Non-IR (sun exposure), electricity and lone working
- Driving own vehicle for work purposes
- Occasional contact with animals, birds, reptiles, vermin control, moulds/fungi, human blood/bodily fluid, soil and waste.