"Conservation through wise use" (www.gwct.org.uk)

The Trusts:

The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust (formerly the Game Conservancy Trust) is an independent charity that conducts scientific research into Britain's game and other wildlife. We advise farmers and land-owners on improving wildlife habitat and we lobby for agricultural and conservation policies based on science. Additionally, the GWCT run courses, conferences and seminars.

The Allerton Project is the GWCT's lowland Research and Demonstration farm based on an 800 acre estate in East Leicestershire (www.gwct.org.uk/allerton). The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust is an active member of the Welland Valley Partnership, which is a steering group that includes local authorities, charities, and businesses. The Welland Valley Partnership is chaired by the Welland Rivers Trust.

The Welland Rivers Trust is a Limited Company with charitable status, dedicated to conservation, restoration and education within the Welland river basin. The Trust has been working with a number of partners in recent years to carry out projects to improve the river and its catchment and to prepare an action plan which addresses the problems faced by the river and its catchment (www.wellandriverstrust.org.uk).

Job Vacancy: Welland Project Officer

Location: The post holder will be based at GWCT Allerton Project, Loddington, Leicestershire, LE7 9XE

Primary objectives: To manage funding, strategic development and delivery of projects to conserve, protect and restore the waters of the River Welland throughout its whole catchment. To deliver this the post holder will:

- Raise funds for continuing and future works
- Work with communities and landowners, including the further development of the community-based River Warden scheme
- Deliver monitoring and sampling regimes at project sites
- Develop interventions for river and habitat restoration, arranging contractors to deliver certain capital works, managing contactors and volunteers
- Report the progress of works to key stakeholders and promote more widely through social media

Person Specification: The post holder must demonstrate a keen desire to improve the total environment of the Welland catchment and involve communities and agencies in these projects. Good interpersonal and communication skills are vital in engaging all groups from schools and youth organisations from parish to local councils, from the Environment Agency to adjacent Rivers Trusts and Partnerships.

Essential Skills: The candidate will need to demonstrate that they are:

- An excellent organiser
- A good networker
- Good at creating and engaging interest
- A self-manager and planner

With

- Knowledge and experience of the work required to develop funding bids
- IT skills (Microsoft packages, email, web management, Facebook Twitter editor)
- A passion for the environment
- Full driving licence and own car (insured for business use)

Desirable Skills

- Academic training in a related environmental/geographical/biological science preferably in freshwater ecosystems
- Experience of administration/ organisation of environmental projects
- Experience of working with community groups

Main duties and Responsibilities:

To report to the Welland Rivers Trust Board of Trustees and the Welland Valley Partnership.

To organise and minute Catchment Partnership meetings.

To develop, deliver and manage practical river restoration works at a variety of sites across the Welland catchment.

To submit high-quality funding applications to raise money for project delivery and salary expenses.

To work with community groups and landowners, and where necessary tenants, to develop working relationships and the delivery of interventions.

To ensure that project plans are adhered to and that the works are delivered by contractors and/or volunteers in accordance with all relevant legislation, within budget, on time and within the aims of the relevant project.

To collate data and information from various citizen science groups which will add to the baseline data for improving water quality and increasing biodiversity in and around the River Welland and its tributaries.

Hours of work: 37.5 hours/week (5 days)

Salary: £22,000 pa

Holiday: 22 days per annum (Jan-Dec) plus bank holidays

Benefits: Contributory Private Healthcare plan and pension scheme

Applications:	The first closing date for receipt of applications (including a current CV, with explanatory letter plus names and addresses of two referees) is October 12th. Applications will still be considered after that date until a candidate is recruited. Interviews have been provisionally set for early November and will be held at Loddington. Send by email to Peter Barham peterjbarham@googlemail.com.