

## **Wyre Rivers Trust – Conservation & Engagement Officer – 37.5 Hours Per Week**

### Background

The Wyre Rivers Trust is a registered charity that has been in operation for several years for the purpose of improving the ecological status of the river Wyre and its catchment

Founded by 3 Angling clubs and supported by many community groups the Trust has carried out works within the catchment by volunteers and contractors to improve spawning conditions and habitat improvements for the benefit of migratory fish, coarse fish and eels. In 2013 the Wyre Rivers Trust became host of the Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership and begun to deliver works on the catchment scale with a wide range of benefits for the Wyre catchment.

Recently the trust has become more successful in securing funding for a number of projects which will be delivered throughout the Wyre catchment. The projects focus on a wide range of issues which include bio-diversity, water quality, natural flood management, habitat creation and habitat connectivity. The trust is in the midst of creating an integrated catchment plan, for this we require a wide range of engagement activities which will allow us to ensure that we create a document which is representative of all stakeholders within the Wyre Catchment.

Due to its success the Trust now seeks to grow its scope and scale by employing a second member of staff. This will allow it to successfully deliver a number of projects within the timescales that have been agreed with the project funders.

The role will be home based in the north Lancashire area, but the candidate will be expected to work across the catchment and hot-desk at the offices of various partners. The post will report to the Wyre Rivers Trust Programme Manager and Chairman.

## **Conservation & Engagement Officer**

**REPORTS TO:** Trust Chairman Via Programme Manager

**HOURS:** 37.5 Hours Per Week

**LENGTH OF CONTRACT:** 12 Months

**SALARY:** Circa £21,000.00 per annum

### **Job Purpose:**

To successfully deliver the various aspects of the projects which you are assigned, this includes but is not limited to; working with landowners and to develop working relationships, developing interventions for river and habitat restoration, arranging contractors to deliver certain capital works, managing contractors and volunteers, delivering monitoring and sampling regimes at project sites, reporting the progress of works to the programme manager, Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership and project funders.

### **Person Description:**

The successful candidate will be an exceptional self-starter with a vision and passion for ensuring that greater value is placed on the River Wyre becoming cleaner and healthier environment. They must be a good communicator with a passion for conservation and knowledge of freshwater and estuarine environments. The candidate must also have a good knowledge of river restoration techniques, water safety, a will to develop practical river restoration skills and be comfortable and proficient at working with land owners. The candidate will also be required to deliver detailed monitoring plans and will need to have a good understanding of monitoring techniques, their applications and the analysis of data which is collected.

### **Responsibilities:**

- To report to the Wyre RT Programme Manager
- To report the day to day delivery to the Wyre RT Programme Manager and prepare reports for programme sponsors.
- To work with 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 in accordance with all relevant legislation and the aims of the relevant project.
- Work in close conjunction with the contractors and/or volunteers that will be delivering interventions and ensure that the works are delivered in a suitable manner.
- Management and administration of contracts for the delivery of interventions.
- To organise and direct surveys of the flora and fauna in and around the river at the sites where delivery has taken place as part of the relevant projects.
- To collate data and information from various authorities which will add to the baseline data to act as a starting point for improving water quality and increasing biodiversity in and around the River Wyre and its associated bathing waters.
- To be familiar with the potential and competent in the use of GIS.
- To develop, deliver and manage practical river restoration works at a variety of sites across the Wyre catchment.

The Wyre Rivers Trust will provide the successful candidate with;

- Mileage allowances for the candidates own vehicle whilst being used for trust business, this will be paid at the agreed public sector rate.
- A Pension via the Rivers Trust Pension scheme
- A laptop computer and a mobile phone will be provided for trust business, to be returned upon termination of the employment contract.

**Individual Requirements:**

**Essential:**

- Minimum degree level qualification in aquatic environmental science, conservation management or similar degree.
- An understanding of aquatic (river, estuarine and marine) survey techniques.
- Good presentation and interpretation skills with the ability to get complex information across simply and concisely to a wide range of audiences.
- Possessing good inter-personal skills, both face to face and over the phone.
- Self-starter able to work on their own without day to day supervision.
- Reliability, good attendance and work performance.
- Excellent organisational and administrative skills with the necessary attention to detail.
- Good IT skills to include record keeping, filing and have the awareness of confidentiality and general data protection rules.
- Valid driving licence and own car, insured for business use.
- A passion for the restoration and conservation of catchments and the flora and fauna which reside within them.

**Desirable:**

- Knowledge of the project area.
- Based near the project area.
- GIS skills.
- Experience of working with landowners
- Experience of working on large landscape-scale projects

Please send a completed application form (below) and a covering letter to [tom@wyriverstrust.org](mailto:tom@wyriverstrust.org)

Closing date for applications: **Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018**