



Lochaber Fisheries Trust

Job Description

Post: Assistant biologist

Salary: £22-25,000 plus pension contribution

Contract: Permanent, full-time

Location: Torlundy, Fort William

Reporting to: Biologist

Supervisory roles: Volunteers

Working hours: The LFT operates a flexible 40 hour working week; normally 9-5. Some evening and weekend work will be required.

Introduction

Lochaber Fisheries Trust is a charity which has been working to conserve and protect fish and freshwater habitats since 1996. We cover an area from the Sound of Mull up to Loch Nevis, from the west coast to Rannoch Moor in the South to Loch Laggan in the North. Our work involves rivers, lochs, estuaries and inshore coastal areas.

The Trust's work is overseen by a board of directors. We employ two fish biologists and a peatland restoration officer.

Main Duties of the Post

Assisting in all aspects of the Trust's work including extensive fieldwork programmes, management and delivery of a wide portfolio of environmental projects, education and volunteer projects and peatland restoration work.

- assisting with collection and interpretation of fish and habitat data
- data management, report writing and mapping using GIS software
- identifying and securing potential sources of funding
- delivering education projects
- practical river restoration projects
- input into the Trust's Annual Report and website content
- ensure best practice health and safety at work systems are followed at all times
- other activities required to meet the Trust's remit

Personal Specification

Essential

- Relevant Biological or Environmental Sciences Degree
- Proven ability to deliver extensive fieldwork, some of which can be quite physically demanding.
- Self-motivated and enthusiastic personality, able to learn quickly and use own initiative
- Excellent report-writing and data management skills. High level of competency in mapping software, (ideally ArcGIS Pro) and Microsoft Office.
- Excellent time management skills, proven ability to successfully work on multiple projects, and swap efficiently between projects.
- Ability to work alone and as part of a small team
- Understanding of fish, rivers and catchment issues
- Experience in project management
- Excellent communication and presentational skills.
- Working knowledge of health and safety at work and preparation of risk assessments
- A driving licence is essential.
- Flexible attitude to working hours as some evening and weekend work will be required

Desirable

- A minimum of two years' relevant work experience in fisheries biology or similar
- Accreditation/experience for fish habitat and electrofishing surveys would be an advantage.
- Experience of working with freshwater pearl mussels
- Experience of preparing and developing grant applications and identifying potential funding opportunities
- Experience of working with and supervising volunteers would be an advantage.
- Previous experience of working on education or community outreach projects.
- Experience in producing material for websites, social media and annual reports.
- RYA Level 2 Powerboat handling, or equivalent

Salary and Benefits

The starting salary will be £22-25,000, this is negotiable and will be reviewed annually. An employer's pension contribution of up to 5% matched funding will be made. This role will be subject to an initial 6 month probationary period. You will be entitled to a holiday allowance of 20 days paid leave and 9 statutory days.

Applying

If you are passionate about the freshwater environment, please send a description of how your skills and competencies make you a suitable candidate for the role (extending to no more than two pages) along with your c.v. to lochaberfish@googlemail.com

Closing date for applications is 5pm, Monday 28th February 2022

For more information or an informal conversation, please contact Lucy Ballantyne on 01397 703728 or lochaberfish@googlemail.com