

COMMUNITY RANGER JOB DESCRIPTION

Fixed Term Contract 15 months. Salary band B1 (£23,669 to £27,332) 37.5 hrs per week including weekends and evenings.

The Cairngorms Capercaillie Project is a partnership project to deliver three principle objectives: to build support for capercaillie conservation, helping people to understand and value their natural heritage, the benefits it can bring and how their actions can affect it; to work with communities to develop sustainable approaches to recreation, meeting residents and visitors needs whilst minimising impact on capercaillie; and to develop a programme of conservation action to support the species' long-term survival, creating a bigger and more robust forest network.

Overall Purpose:

- To act as a focal point for the project in the community of Carr-bridge; raise awareness and understanding of the importance of Capercaillie pinewood habitats and encourage, support and develop active community involvement in events, activities and projects associated with the Cairngorms Capercaillie Project.

Raising Awareness and Understanding:

- Provide a welcoming point of contact for people interested in the area's pinewoods.
- Work closely with the Cairngorms Capercaillie Project Communications & Interpretation Officer to communicate about the Project to different audiences, via a range of communication platforms, including the use of blogs and social media.
- Deliver a programme of guided walks, talks and events throughout the year, promoting the natural & cultural heritage of the community's pinewood habitats, including events targeted at equalities groups and young people.
- Work with communities, land managers and other stakeholders to promote responsible access opportunities. In particular, provide face-to-face, on-trail advice in local woodlands on responsible dog-walking during the ground-nesting bird breeding season.
- Deliver formal and informal lifelong learning programmes, activities and events in and around Carr-bridge and assist with youth and education activities including John Muir Awards and the Junior Ranger programme.

Community Engagement:

- Establish a presence in the community of Carr-bridge by liaising with community organisations, groups and individuals
- Collaborate with and support James Hutton Institute in delivering innovative story-mapping and community engagement programmes.
- Work with project team members to support consultation and delivery of the programme of work associated with meeting the community's dog walking needs.
- Support community activities and events (often at weekends).

- Work with the Engagement Officer to ensure the community engagement activity gains a media profile locally and nationally.
- Work in partnership with Volunteer Cairngorms to recruit, train and support local volunteers

General

- Regular weekend and out of hours work is required
- Work with partners and volunteers to monitor, maintain and enhance key path networks.
- Take part in visitor monitoring programmes and submit relevant data to the Capercaillie Project.
- Promote the Cairngorms National Park Brand and brand values.
- Contribute to the work of the Conservation & Visitor Experience Directorate and CNPA as a whole and ensuring compliance with financial procedures;
- To contribute to the evaluation of the pilot project with the Carr Bridge Community.

Person Specification - Knowledge, experience and training

ESSENTIAL

- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Good understanding and knowledge of species conservation, recreation management and community engagement;
- Experience of working with the public in a customer focussed role;
- Computer and IT literate
- Ability to work on own initiative, delivering to agreed deadlines
- Driving licence (Other arrangements will be considered for those with a disability which prevents driving).
- Flexible approach to work and ability to work weekends and evenings.
- Physically fit and able/willing to work outside in all weather conditions.

DESIRABLE

- Knowledge and understanding of capercaillie conservation
- Gaelic Language speaker