

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE	Community Engagement Ranger
TEAM	Centres
GRADE	C
RESPONSIBLE TO	Centres Manager
RESPONSIBLE FOR	Volunteers

OVERALL ROLE

The role is to engage with recreational communities, residents and visitors, promoting positive recreation and raising awareness about the adverse impacts of recreational disturbance at Chesil and the Fleet. A key focus will be on helping to identify, plan and implement mitigation measures required to address recreational impacts and help deliver the aspirations set out in the Chesil and Fleet Interim Mitigation Strategy as part of a wider partnership.

The post will be based at the Fine Foundation Wild Chesil Centre and will provide a wardening presence, working with staff and volunteers to actively engage, educate and inspire visitors to value and protect this nationally and internationally important area for wildlife and conservation. Working with Centre staff, the Community Engagement Officer will develop and implement a visitor management plan working closely with landowners and key stakeholders to reduce the impacts of recreational pressure on important species and habitats.

This interesting role has the following key responsibilities. Please read in conjunction with the Chesil and the Fleet Interim Mitigation Strategy

I. Key responsibilities

- Engaging with recreational communities, residents and visitors to promote positive recreation, in particular at targeted hotspot areas.
- Raise awareness about the adverse impacts of recreational disturbance on sensitive habitats and species.
- Provide a visible wardening presence along Chesil and the Fleet, focused from Ferrybridge, to monitor and engage with daily site users.
- Monitor visitor behaviour and disturbance from recreation in line with monitoring strategy.
- Help identify, plan and implement mitigation measures working closely with Centre staff, landowners and key stakeholders.
- Develop and implement a visitor management plan for Chesil and the Fleet at Ferrybridge, including relevant health and safety assessments.
- Implement a range of mitigation measures e.g. signage, displays and access improvements.
- Be the key contact in delivery of mitigation from recreational disturbance on the Chesil and the Fleet nature reserves by developing positive working relationships with landowners, stakeholders, partners and the Steering Group.
- Provide regular updates, progress reports and secretarial support to the Chesil and Fleet Interim Strategy Steering Group so that they can make informed decisions and contribute to Dorset Council monitoring process.
- Raise the profile of the conservation designations, and sensitive habitats and species to recreational users.
- Recruit, train and oversee a volunteer team to assist with outside engagement, wardening and monitoring.

- Attend and organise events, educational activities and deliver on site public engagement to raise awareness about recreational impacts and disturbance.
- Support the educational work of the Wild Chesil Centre to ensure benefits are felt within the reserve.
- Help with communications and publicity
- Liaise with other mitigation officers in Dorset (and nationally where appropriate) to share experiences and best practice.

2. Other Duties

All staff are expected to:

- Undertake any other duties appropriate to the post as delegated by the line manager;
- Contribute to other Dorset Wildlife Trust activities when required, to deliver the aims of the Strategic Plan;
- Engender a culture of membership recruitment within the team;
- Abide by organisational policies and procedures laid down in the Staff Handbook, including promoting equal opportunities particularly with regard to volunteer work.
- Take responsibility for Health and Safety in own work plans and activities and ensure that all activities are carried out in accordance with DWT H&S policies and procedures.

The role will be based out of the Wild Chesil Centre; a flexible approach to working will be required as well as outdoor working in all weather conditions.

Some evening and regular weekend working (2-3 weekends each month) is required with time off in lieu where applicable. There also may be periodic travelling within the county with occasional journeys further afield; DWT pool cars are available but own vehicle may be needed. A valid driving licence is a requirement of this position. Overnight stays are only rarely required.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Area A Experience

The post holder will be expected to have relevant experience in the following areas:

- Engaging people in nature conservation or natural heritage (essential)
- Visitor management and/or customer service (essential)
- Relationship/partnership development (desirable)
- Practical conservation, access and interpretation work (desirable)
- Working with volunteers (desirable)

Area B Knowledge

The post holder is expected to have knowledge of the following:

- Nature Conservation or natural heritage in the UK (essential)
- Marine and coastal wildlife and habitats (desirable)
- Environmental education (essential)
- Health and Safety legislation (desirable)
- Mitigation work (desirable)

Area C Skills/Qualifications

The post holder will require the following skills/qualifications:

- A minimum of one year's experience working in conservation or natural heritage-based community engagement
- Excellent verbal communication skills to wide range of audiences and written communication
- Computer literacy, including databases, word processing and spreadsheets
- Strong organisational skills
- Time management, working to deadlines
- Driving licence (own transport)

Area D Personal Qualities

- Enthusiasm and an ability to enthuse others
 - Able to work independently and responsibly, yet as part of a team
 - Dedicated, flexible and adaptable in approach to work
 - Presentable appearance when required
 - An eye for detail and being meticulous
 - Friendly and out-going
 - Good levels of resilience
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Director signature:

Date.....

Postholder signature:.....

Date.....