Job Profile

##### Job title Principal Ecologist

##### Responsible to Managing Director

##### Direct reports Ecologist/Assistant Ecologist or Seasonal Ecologists

#### Overall purpose of job

To provide high quality ecological surveys, reports and advice to internal and external stakeholders and clients; assist in developing SWT Ecology Services’ technical expertise and business development; represent SWT externally and help in delivering the Trust’s mission.

#### Main responsibilities

* Undertake surveys and manage individual contacts to deliver high quality ecological consultancy services within budget and to deadline.
* Provide high quality ecological advice to clients.
* Maintain good client relationships and play an active role in securing new and repeat business.
* Liaise with colleagues within SWT, external clients, consultants and consultees, acquiring data from third parties and producing high quality reports.
* General administration associated with the role, up to date paperwork and filing.
* Manage small to large scale projects and sub-contractors.
* Run internal and external training
* Contribute to the quality assurance of reports and survey data
* Represent SWT externally and be lead ecologist on key projects.

#### Personal Specification

##### Experience

* At least eight years relevant experience within the ecological consultancy sector
* Experience of conducting protected species surveys and advising on mitigation
* Protected species and habitat surveys
* High level experience of Surrey and south east England ecology
* Demonstrable experience in managing projects throughout the project management life-cycle.

##### Education

* Degree in ecology or other relevant subject

##### Knowledge

* In depth knowledge of the application of UK and relevant European environmental legislation and policy
* Up to date knowledge of survey and mitigation guidance for a range of protected species
* Good knowledge of Surrey and south east England biodiversity
* Excellent ecological skills
* Good understanding and practical experience in delivering biodiversity net gain assessments
* Understanding of wide range of ecology and habitat management
* Knowledge of computer systems including Microsoft package and GIS

##### Skills

* Excellent fieldwork skills, in your area of specialism
* Be able to manage own workload and meet deadlines
* Be proficient in customer service
* Able to respond promptly and professionally to clients with advice and consultation from colleagues if required.
* Excellent verbal and written communication skills
* Excellent report writing skills
* Full driving licence
* Full membership of CIEEM

##### Personal qualities

* Enthusiastic with an ability to inspire others
* Dedicated, proactive, adaptable and flexible to your approach to work
* Willingness to work unsocial hours (evenings, early mornings and occasional weekends) as dictated by survey and project requirements
* Imaginative, inventive and able to turn ideas into action
* Be personable and a team player with the ability to work on own initiative and independently when required.
* The ability to deal with a wide variety of people in a friendly and professional manner
* Willingness to train and mentor staff within the team and SWT in survey techniques
* Ability to work under pressure, manage complex workloads and to meet deadlines
* Passionate about nature conservation and the ethos of the Wildlife Trusts