



JOB DESCRIPTION

‘Partnerships for Nature’ Bucklebury Common Ranger

JOB PURPOSE

This new post is a key part of the Partnerships for Nature Project (P4N) delivery, it is a full-time role initially for a fixed term to the end of Feb 2026.

The purpose of the role is to implement all aspects of management of Bucklebury Common for P4N.

[Bucklebury Common](#) is a 350ha Local Wildlife Site with full public access. Previously, the common was grazed by cattle belonging to ‘commoners’ exercising their grazing rights. However, this practice has fallen away and the once-healthy heathland habitat is now dominated by secondary birch woodland. The reintroduction of grazing will help restore valuable heathland and wood pasture habitats and their associated wildlife. Appropriate management will be undertaken to the heath and veteran trees to ensure longevity. Volunteers will check livestock, undertake tasks and surveys supported and coordinated by the new Ranger post.

Partnerships for Nature is led and administered by the North Wessex Downs National Landscape Partnership. P4N is mainly funded by Defra and administered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund. See [Partnerships for Nature](#).

REPORTING LINE

Reports to the Bucklebury Steward of the Manor

STAFF MANAGEMENT

Volunteers

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible for budget only as directed by the Line Manager. Contributes information to budget setting process.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES.

- Carry out all aspects of on-site management of Bucklebury Common in relation to P4N; estate and conservation management, tools and equipment, access and infrastructure maintenance and improvement, survey and monitoring
- Recruit, organise, supervise and support volunteers

- (volunteers/volunteer wardens/stock watchers etc). Take responsibility for the health and safety of volunteer teams working the common, and ensure safe working practices are adhered to at all times
- Plan, deliver and supervise practical management contracts
- Responsible for the movement and safety of livestock (a small herd of traditional breed cattle). Fulfil all legal and ethical obligations with regards to welfare and ownership. Keep all necessary records associated with livestock, and formulate livestock movement schedules as required
- Help with the administrative and veterinary procedures relating to owned livestock.
- Formulate and work to programmes and budgets according to the agreed P4N project, guided by the Line Manager, reserve management plans and other planning documents
- Assist with the production of management plans and other ecological functions
- Contribute to the production of plans and policies. Liaise with external agencies over reserve management
- Attend one-to-one meetings with your line manager, P4N steering group meetings and public liaison meetings as required.
- Contribute to the programme of guided walks and volunteer training events and workshops. Represent the Bucklebury Estate at other events from time to time
- Adhere to all relevant policies, procedures and systems. To represent the Bucklebury Estate in a professional manner and to act at all times in a manner which will not damage its reputation.
- To ensure that all health and safety obligations are met in all aspects of the role
- To provide regular reports as required
- Respond to external enquiries, as required

Any other duties as delegated by the Line Manager.

PERSON SPECIFICATION	Essential	Desirable
Minimum of 2 years' experience in applied land management or conservation management	✓	
Proven knowledge of ecological principles and habitat management and assessment for a range of habitat types	✓	
Proven identification skills for common wildlife groups	✓	
Experience of a range of practical conservation techniques	✓	
Proven experience of project management, including managing and supervising contractors.	✓	
Knowledge of Health and Safety legislation, including for employing contractors	✓	
Proven practical and livestock handling skills and experience in animal welfare.	✓	
Experience of managing volunteers	✓	
An ability to work with a minimum of supervision and show high levels of initiative to achieve results with limited human and financial resources	✓	
The ability to deal with the public and volunteers in a friendly and professional manner in a variety of situations	✓	
Willingness to work evenings and weekends as necessary	✓	

A current UK-valid driving licence	✓	
First Aid at Work qualification	✓	
Trailer driving qualification	✓	
Pesticide application certificate	✓	
Off road driving certificate	✓	
Lantra QCF level 2 and 3 or NPTC CS30 and CS31 chainsaw certification	✓	
Current LANTRA brushcutter certificate		✓
Tractor driving certificate		✓
NPTC Transport of Livestock by Road (Short Journeys)		✓
Own vehicle available for some business use		✓
Budgetary and work planning skills and experience		✓

MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

- Ability to deliver the objectives for the management of Bucklebury Common for the P4N Project
- Amount of supervision required to achieve the above
- Positive feedback from members, volunteers and visitors