

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:** **Reserve Surveyor**

**Why volunteer with us?**

We’re WWT, the charity for wetlands and wildlife. We’re on a mission to restore wetlands because they are a wondrous solution to our world's problems. Together we will unlock their power – and help nature burst back to life. Because when wetlands flourish, all life will flourish. We lead the way, bring life and inspire connection. Our main values enrich our community:

* By restoring our wonderful wetlands we gain deeper connections
* By inspiring future volunteers we will inspire others to value, act and benefit from wetlands
* To Thrive! We believe our volunteers will thrive in making WWT a more sustainable and inclusive organisation.

Volunteers are integral to the running of our Welney reserve and without their help we wouldn’t be able to maintain this amazing 1300-acre wetland of international importance. Our volunteer team are friendly, motivated, and hard-working and say they benefit by gaining new experiences, meeting new people and most importantly making a difference by helping maintain important wetland habitat.

**Why do we need you?**

At WWT we do conservation. With a wealth of experience and a proven track record in scientific research, we create and conserve wetland for species. The reserve at WWT Welney is a heaven for wildlife, not just birds but a whole range of mammals, invertebrates, amphibians, and plants. To better monitor the impact our management, have on the reserve and its wildlife we carry out a few surveys throughout the year, but we can never cover everything.

To improve our survey coverage and understanding of our management, we need suitably skilled volunteers to carry out species and habitat surveys on a variety of features across the site.

**Wetlands for the win!**

Looking for valuable work experience to gain relevant skills or want to spend more time outdoors? Or both? Look no further - a volunteering position with us plays a crucial role in saving wetlands for wildlife and people as well as:

* Being part of a volunteering experience in an inspiring environment and getting closer to nature
* Making a real contribution to the conservation work of WWT
* Learning new, transferable skills and being part of an inclusive volunteering experience
* Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team
* Gaining free entry to all WWT wetland centres throughout the UK on presentation of your WWT name badge, and enjoying a great discount in WWT shops and cafes
* You will be provided with a WWT uniform and receive full induction and training for your role

**This role involves:**

* Helping to carry out species and habitat surveys in pre-agreed areas of the reserve.
* Using existing survey methodologies to collect accurate data.
* Liaising with Reserve Team staff to clarify areas for surveying.
* The role could also be developed, depending on the skills and willingness of the volunteer, to train other volunteers in species identification, and deliver informal guided walks for visitors if appropriate.

**This role will suit you if:**

* Have good species identification skills, including birds, mammal, invertebrates (particularly moths, butterflies, damselflies and dragonflies) and plants.
* Have experience in recording data collected from a standard methodology.
* Are self-motivated and have a good attention to detail.
* Have an interest in the natural environment.
* Can work on your own or as part of a team.
* Have a can-do attitude, are happy to help us in all weathers, and are both a practical person and physically fit.
* Having, or being happy to develop, the confidence to engage our visitors with the work of WWT is also a key part of this role.

**Practicalities**

**Where will you be based?** Welney Wetland Centre

**Who will you volunteer with?** Assistant Warden

**Time commitment?** Normally one day a week – days and times to be agreed but with a degree of flexibility to fit in with weather etc.

We want your volunteering to be a positive and fun experience. You’ll get a warm welcome, including information on training, equipment and other information you need. This will include risk assessments based on your role and any particular support you need.

Volunteers receiveaccess to our sites, and discounts in our shops and cafes. Some roles include a uniform or require the use of equipment or protective clothing. If you are based at a particular site or office location, you’ll need to be able to get yourself there and back. Information on locations can be found on our [website](https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres). We will keep you up to date with what’s happening across WWT and the difference you will be helping to make happen.

**Interested?**

Full details of this and other roles can be found at [www.wwt.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.wwt.org.uk/volunteer). We celebrate inclusivity and diversity amongst our volunteering community and encourage applicants to state any disabilities they have for provided support. Please state any disabilities in your application form or contact us at [volunteering@wwt.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@wwt.org.uk) to state what support you need either in locating the information or filling out the application process so we can cater for your additional needs.