Environmental Project Manager – Managed Retreat
Promoting Adaptation to Changing Coasts (PACCo)
Job Description
Interreg V A France (Channel) England

Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund

Contract dates: October 2020 to April 2023 (32 months)

Working hours: 24 hours/week

Salary Minimum: £34,000 pro rata

We’re looking for an experienced Project Manager with a love of nature to help deliver one of the most exciting wetland recreation and climate adaptation schemes that encompasses sites in the UK and France.

Promoting Adaptation to Changing Coasts (PACCo) is a cross-border initiative led by the Environment Agency financially supported by the Interreg V A France (Channel) England programme. The project has a combined value of £22 million. The broad aim of PACCo is to demonstrate that it is possible to work with stakeholders in estuarine regions to deliver a range of benefits for people and the environment by adapting pre-emptively to climate change.

The project focuses on two pilot sites: the lower Otter Valley, East Devon, England (www.lowerotterrestorationproject.co.uk) and the Saâne Valley in Normandy, France. The ecological functionality of these two estuarine locations are currently negatively impacted by historical human modifications with their current societal value threatened by climate change. Together they present an opportunity to create a transferable model for sustainable management of coastal and estuarine areas that can be used by other projects and show how multiple problems can be addressed to create multiple benefits. The initiative will recreate 100ha of inter-tidal and wetland habitat, enhance ecosystem services and bring socio-economic benefits to the two focus sites.

This initiative is the first time that the benefits of proactive coastal intervention will be demonstrated on this scale at two sites in different countries, giving greater international visibility. The intention is to use this increased profile to promote PACCo’s transferable model to an extensive stakeholder network to influence policy makers at national and EU level and enable climate change adaptation at more sites.

For further information please visit: https://www.channelmanche.com/en/projects/approved-projects/promoting-adaptation-to-changing-coasts/
About us

The East Devon Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust is a conservation charity widely respected as a leader in environmental management. Established by Clinton Devon Estates in 2006 the charity is responsible for the management of the majority of the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths and the Otter Estuary (www.pebblebedheaths.org.uk/). Clinton Devon Estates is a family business involved in farming, sustainable forestry, conservation management and several businesses including the South West’s premier equestrian venue, Bicton Arena. (https://clintondevon.com/).

The Conservation Trust and Clinton Devon Estates is committed to creating an inclusive work environment with a diverse workforce. All appropriately qualified candidates will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or age.

The role

The successful candidate will work closely with the Head of Wildlife and Conservation of Clinton Devon Estates and the Environment Agency to lead the delivery of two work packages of PACCo in the lower Otter Valley in East Devon and the Saâne Valley, Normandy. The role will be supported by a broad partnership delivery team on both sides of the channel. This work has a combined value of £1.8 million. These work packages focus primarily on visitor infrastructure improvement; environmental monitoring and evaluation; socio-economic valuation, engagement and communication. You’ll manage these work elements to programme, quality, and budget by March 2023 and be working as part of a virtual team with multiple organisations including: project partners; co-financers; the Interreg managing authority; coastal groups; local authorities; NGOs; contractors; charities; universities.

As part of a virtual and on-site team – working across different partners, organisations, and countries – it is your job to deliver through them and get the best from everyone.

Reporting to the Head of Wildlife and Conservation of Clinton Devon Estates and liaising closely with the scheme’s Project Manager and Senior User based at the Environment Agency and an allied Project Manager in France your role will involve:

- Day to day administration of the project components under your management responsibility including developing, implementing and monitoring a schedule of project activities and key milestones to achieve project objectives.
- Leading on the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust’s project commitments including:
  - Technical work packages.
  - Liaising with local organisations and communities on both sides of the channel to deliver the scheme’s broad objectives.
Internal and external communications including developing and managing promotional tools and cross-border communications with the French partner project.

- Working with the Conservation Trusts’ Financial Manager to ensure works are kept within budget and accounted for following Interreg financial procedures.
- Establishing and managing project monitoring and reporting processes, including risk registers and change management ensuring alignment with project partners.
- Contract and tender process management in line with project guidelines.
- Ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of those involved with work package delivery.
- Chairing internal and client project meetings

About You

This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced Project Manager with a passion for the natural world to help steer to completion a nationally significant habitat creation and infrastructure project related to climate change adaptation. If you would like to know more we’d like to hear from you.

We think the ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate a strong interest in the environment and climate change and a desire to make a difference.

Skills

Essential
- Ability to work collaboratively within a partnership with a wide range of stakeholders and partners to ensure shared objectives are achieved.
- Being highly organised with an attention to detail
- Managing costs against budgets
- Ability to provide direction to a project team and ensure objectives are met.
- Competent IT user (e.g. MS packages, Outlook, social media etc).
- A degree level qualification (or equivalent) in a related discipline
- Excellent verbal and written communication; excellent presentation
- Full driving license

Desirable
- Good level of written and verbal French skills

Experience

Essential
- 5+ years project management experience, including of dispersed teams, preferably within the environmental sector
- Experience of leading and managing multidisciplinary teams.

Desirable
- APM Project Management Qualification or PRINCE2 Practitioner
- Experienced in Interreg and European funded projects
In your role you will be acting as an advocate for the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust, Clinton Devon Estates and the broader PACCo partnership.

We are looking for applicants who can start from October 2020.

Benefits:

Flexible working hours

Work from home opportunities

Access to on site gym (Covid permitting)

Application process

Please send a CV and covering letter telling us what motivated you to apply for this role and the key skills, knowledge and experience you have that demonstrates that you can fulfil the role requirements.


All applications should be sent by email to Jayne Savage: jayne.savage@clintondevon.com

Dependent on the nation’s recovery from the Covid outbreak interviews will be held via video conference mid/late September.