

<b>Job title</b>	Ranger Otter Estuary Nature Reserve
<b>Salary</b>	£26,000
<b>Line manger</b>	Reserves Manger
<b>Hours per week</b>	37.5
<b>Status</b>	Permanent



### **Main purpose of the job**

We're looking for an enthusiastic person with ecological monitoring and land management experience, and strong people skills, to play a key role in our team in this exciting new role.

Working as part of a small team across our two nature reserves, this role will focus on management and engagement on the Otter Estuary Nature Reserve. This is a unique opportunity to play an important role in managing a newly created intertidal nature reserve.

Responsibilities are varied and include survey/monitoring, habitat management, infrastructure maintenance, record keeping and report writing, leading volunteer work groups and guided walks.

A core part of this role will be to provide a point of contact for visitors while patrolling on site, helping them to enjoy their visit while improving understand of responsible recreation and prevent disturbance to wildlife. It will require strong interpersonal skills to work effectively and persuasively with the public, partners and stakeholders.

It will be a challenging, but rewarding role, working with a site team seeking to maximise the benefits of this landscape to both people and wildlife.

### **What you will be expected to deliver in the role**

#### **The current objectives for the post holder are to:**

- Face-to-face point of contact for visitors to the site.
- Work with the Reserves Manager to ensure the implementation of the reserve management plans, including record keeping and to ensure delivery of sites' objectives and compliance obligations.
- Coordinate and carry out ecological monitoring as set out in the monitoring schedule to ensure delivery of sites' objectives.
- Ensure successful aftercare of works linked to the Lower Otter Restoration Project.
- Maintenance of site infrastructure such as viewing platforms, signage and fencing.
- Supervise contractors to carry out work on site safely and legally.
- Ensure the reserve is managed in accordance with best practise with respect to Health and Safety, environmental management and legal compliance of conservation and land management operations.
- Work with colleagues and partners to deliver education and engagement activities that build connections with people that enjoy the reserve, fostering a sense of pride and understanding of how they can care for the site.
- Manage volunteers who assist with management and monitoring on the reserve.

## **Day to day tasks may include:**

Working closely with colleagues and partners to:

- Patrol the site regularly to limit disturbance to wildlife.
- Coordinate all areas of the monitoring programme including managing volunteers and collating data. Working with the Reserves Manager to feed into the annual report.
- Carry out regular inspections of infrastructure and carry out repairs or manage contractors as appropriate.
- Monitor and arrange work to ensure aftercare of work linked to the restoration project such as replacement trees in planting schemes.
- Assist with delivery of a programme of innovative engagement opportunities and events for diverse audiences.
- Support the Countryside Learning Officer and Reserves Manager to develop initiatives to increase effectiveness and engagement of new and existing volunteers.
- Liaise with tenant farmers, other neighbours and relevant organisations.
- Contribute to regular newsletters, social media and development of web content.
- Support the wider team with work across the Pebblebed Heaths NNR.

Although this list provides examples of what you will be doing it's not intended to be exhaustive. You will have personal objectives that will be discussed and agreed with your line manager when you start.

## **Person Profile – what you will bring to the team**

### **Essential qualifications and professional memberships**

1. Degree or equivalent in a related field
2. Full driving licence.

### **Essential values and personal qualities**

3. Personal values and behaviours aligned to our charitable objectives and vision.
4. Passionate about making a positive difference for people and nature.
5. Team player, cooperates with others to achieve good outcomes for the team and the land under our management.

### **Essential specialist knowledge skills and experience**

6. Experience of managing species and habitats for nature conservation and a good understanding of (and identification of) British wildlife, habitats and the best management techniques for sustaining them and maximising biodiversity.
7. Bird identification and survey/monitoring experience including report writing.
8. A good understanding of health and safety related to management of public open spaces
9. Strong communication skills, both written and verbal, and ability to engage tactfully with the public to understand, manage and resolve conservation and access conflicts where this occurs.
10. Experience of leading volunteers, both individuals and groups and a good understanding of the principles of good group management
11. Practical countryside furniture maintenance skills.

12. Ability to provide illustrated talks and experience in leading guided walks and running events for the public and school groups
13. Computer literate with specific knowledge of Excel and Word and use of GIS.
14. Organisational skills, including time management and prioritisation.
15. Knowledge and ability to demonstrate commitment towards equality, diversity and inclusion issues.
16. Able to lone work, following safe systems of work.
17. The willingness to travel to meetings/events and work unsocial hours during school holidays, at weekends and evenings.

### **Desirable specialist knowledge skills and experience**

18. Knowledge of the Otter Estuary
19. Previous experience of working on intertidal habitats
20. Current First Aid at Work course certificate.
21. Chainsaw Certificate of Competence (ideally NPTC)
22. Pesticide course certificate of competence, PA1, PA6 and PA6aw
23. Brush cutting course certificate of competence.
24. Driving sit-in ATV
25. Use of social media in professional capacity

### **Employee benefits include:**

- Holiday: 25 days plus public holidays
- Support for CPD and training
- Life insurance
- Gym and personal trainer
- Biennial health checks
- Cycle to work scheme

## East Devon Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust

The East Devon Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust was established by Clinton Devon Estates in 2006. Based out of our office near East Budleigh (East Devon), our charitable objective is to conserve the natural environment of the Pebblebed Heaths National Nature Reserve (1,159 ha) and the Otter Estuary (90 ha) for the benefit of the public.

Since 2012 the Otter Estuary has been the focus of a nationally significant coastal climate adaptation and inter-tidal habitat creation scheme. When considered alongside the adjacent Axe and the Exe estuaries, the lower Otter valley helps provide a strong and connected series of wetland habitats where birds can thrive. Along with the Pebblebed Heaths the lower Otter valley is important for the health and wellbeing of local communities with 250,000+ visit annually. It is part of the World Heritage Jurassic Coast and falls within the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Part of the South West Coast path runs through the valley.

With the completion of the Lower Otter Restoration Project there is an exciting opportunity for a conservation ranger to join our team to achieve the objectives for this expanded nature reserve. The role will also support existing conservation and engagement activities across the associated Pebblebed Heaths NNR as required.

Clinton Devon Estates are a progressive land management and property business, with a proud history, based across 10,000 hectares in Devon. Our 2030 Strategy reflects our leadership and influence across critical agendas facing the country and communities: climate adaptation, agricultural transition, woodland management, environmental stewardship, energy and property management.

For more information on our organisation and the sites that we manage please visit:

<https://www.pebblebedheaths.org.uk/>

<https://www.pebblebedheathsnnr.co.uk/>

<https://www.lowerotterrestorationproject.co.uk/>

<https://clintondevon.com/>

Closing date for applications: 9am 25th January 2023

To apply please send us your CV and a covering letter setting out what makes you suitable for this role and why you would like to work with us.

Please send applications to: [jayne.savage@clintondevon.com](mailto:jayne.savage@clintondevon.com)

Interviews expected to be held on Friday 10th February 2023 at

Rolle Estate Office  
Bicton Arena  
East Budleigh  
Devon  
EX9 7BL