



Volunteer Role Profile

Title of Volunteer Role	Broads Conservation Team - Surveyor
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Purpose of role What will they be doing the majority of the time?	To monitor and survey the wildlife present across Suffolk Wildlife Trust network of Broads nature reserves.
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Key Tasks What we want you to do?	Key Skills What we need you to have from day one?	Resources / Training What we will provide for each?
<p>Monitor and survey both avian and non-avian key species (from rare fen raft spiders to national Wetland Bird Surveys WeBS)</p> <p>Neatly record and maintain accurate information on maps and data sheets according to the survey methodology.</p> <p>The ability to be consistent and follow a standard survey/ monitoring methodology.</p> <p>You will have your own optical equipment to use whilst surveying with adequate insurance.</p> <p>We need enthusiastic and methodical people with excellent communication skills.</p>	<p>Skill Level 1: Single Species Surveyor e.g. Fen Raft Spider, water vole. No previous experience required, but an enthusiasm to learn is essential.</p> <p>Skill Level 2 e.g. Bittern Monitoring Previous knowledge and experience of target species required.</p> <p>Skill Level 3 Multiple Species Surveyor e.g. Butterfly transect, WeBS counts, Breeding Bird Monitoring. Previous knowledge and experience of target species, with the ability to count whilst the species is moving in flight and in large numbers.</p>	<p>Induction</p> <p>A map of the reserve</p> <p>Survey methodology & training specific to the task</p> <p>Risk assessment for surveying and health and safety guidance</p> <p>A buddy on their first day survey</p>



Role Title:	Broads Conservation Team – Surveyor
Where:	Carlton, Oulton & Castle Marshes, Gunton Warren and Gunton Meadow
When:	Various times of day, week and year according to species
Commitment:	8 hours per year, minimum
Why We Want You:	<p>Suffolk Wildlife Trust surveying volunteer are part of a big team of dedicated people who donate their time, energy, talent and skills to help monitor wildlife from rare fen raft spiders to national wetland bird surveys (WeBS) across the suite of Broads nature reserves owned and managed by the Trust. You will be helping protect nature now and for future generations to enjoy by surveying throughout the year.</p> <p>On our nature reserves we monitor and survey many species, both avian and non-avian, in order to maintain accurate information about what is present and to assess populations of key species against management plan targets. This information allows us to assess whether the habitat management we are doing is working, and to fine tune it as new species are found and priorities change. We are looking for enthusiastic and organised people to carry out wildlife monitoring/ surveys to support us in this vital area of work.</p>
What's In It For You:	<p>You will be part of a friendly and experienced team of like-minded nature enthusiasts working to protect Suffolk priority species. You will meet and work with a range of dedicated volunteers and staff, which will give you valuable insight into our work.</p> <p>Your support will help make a genuine contribution to wildlife conservation giving you the opportunity to learn how reserves operate and see things beyond the usual visitor experience.</p> <p>Depending on your existing level of experience and knowledge will determine which surveys you can participate in. You will be trained and mentored by a member of the team, to learn monitoring/ survey methodology which will help you develop your skills and identification techniques.</p> <p>Suffolk Wildlife Trust is the county's nature charity – the only organisation dedicated wholly to safeguarding Suffolk's wildlife and countryside.</p>



The Skills / Talents You'll Need:

It is *essential* that you have good observational skills, patience, a willingness to learn, the ability to work safely, unsupervised and as part of a team.

When walking transects, you must have a *reasonable* level of physical fitness as part of the transect could involve walking 3-4 km over rough ground.

Some surveys take place early in the morning or late in the evening e.g. monitoring booming (male) bittern. A willingness to take part in monitoring/surveys during "unsociable" hours is *desirable*.

If you are bird monitoring, it is *essential* to have existing bird identify skills, knowledge and experience by sight and by sound. Some of the work involves large numbers of target species, so a natural ability/ previous experience in counting large flocks of birds is advantageous.

If you are surveying a single species (e.g. fen raft spider) it is an advantage to have some wildlife knowledge of the species, but *not essential*.

Previous experience of monitoring/survey work would be an advantage, but *not essential*.