

## ROLE DESCRIPTION & PERSON SPECIFICATION

### Wilder Rivers Adviser

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#### BASE OF WORK:

Brooke House, Ashbocking with regular travel across the county.

#### REPORTING TO:

Wilder Landscapes Innovation Manager

#### VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

Volunteer manager tasks include using Team Kinetic & leading on volunteer recruitment, onboarding, recognition and day-to-day management of volunteers.

## ROLE PURPOSE

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Suffolk Wildlife Trust is an inspiring and impactful organisation with a compelling vision for our county:

**“A Wilder Suffolk where nature is thriving and abundant because everyone is doing more to help”.**

In the decade to 2030, we are committed to scaling up our activities across the county, to bring nature back to Suffolk. Our aim is for 30% of our county to be connected and well looked after for nature by 2030, so that our species and habitats can recover and thrive – and for 1 in 4 people to be actively helping to achieve this.

Utilising your skills and experience in rivers ecology and restoration techniques you will work collaboratively on ambitious and forward-looking projects to restore Suffolk’s rivers and their wildlife. As you work to bring our rivers back to life, your expertise will place Suffolk Wildlife Trust at the forefront of river restoration in the county. A collaborative approach working with landowners, organisations and ambitious projects will allow you to work strategically to deliver for rivers across the county, prioritising action to the areas of most need. Our rivers will be wilder, functional, clean, and full of abundant wildlife as a result of our projects and advice.

## MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

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Every staff role has three key areas of focus known as the “Power of 3” to support our mission to bring nature back. Typically, you should expect to spend 80% of your time on these:

### 1) Deliver expert advice and leadership to riparian landowners and other river stakeholders.

- Offer expertise freely in the form of riparian landowner advice, focused on our priority habitats and species.
- Offer advice on funding, permitting and consents and to encourage initiative and action for rivers.
- Identify or create opportunities for collaboration between neighbouring landowners to create greater impact for our rivers.
- Make your expertise in river ecology available to support colleagues.
- Raise the profile of issues facing rivers and their wildlife, at public-facing events & through media channels.
- Support Wilder Rivers Champions (team wilder) to deliver our wilder rivers message across the county and take initiative and action local.

## **2) Deliver projects to restore and enhance Suffolk's rivers**

- Support riparian landowners to deliver their own projects utilising skills and experience developed from Suffolk Wildlife Trust-led projects.
- Ensure that Suffolk Wildlife Trust's resources are used efficiently across projects to maximise restoration of nature, prioritising your input against probable outcomes, in line with our 2030 strategy for rivers.
- Continue to lead legacy projects in line with Suffolk Wildlife Trust's strategic goals.
- Develop and lead ambitious projects at scale across the county, focusing on river systems, their priority wildlife and restoration of natural function, bringing innovative approaches where you can work with the Wilder Landscapes Innovation Manager.

## **3) Partnership approaches**

- Provide expert input into partnership approaches, create a sense of common purpose & urgency.
- Work with other river and conservation-focused organisations to deliver/support delivery of ambitious action for rivers, develop strategic approaches and clarity of focus.
- Work with relevant catchment partnerships to provide critical challenge and energy to drive collaborative approaches that meet the needs of multiple partners and deliver for wildlife.
- Where partnerships exist that cover major land areas within catchments, ensure that proactive engagement is made to develop positive action for rivers.
- Work to influence and drive positive action with institutional partners, alongside the Wilder Landscapes Innovation Manager
- Continue to maintain positive working partnerships with key funders of Suffolk Wildlife Trust's rivers work.

Ensuring appropriate reporting of all accidents, near misses, and incidents to identify causes and prevent recurrence. Use your skills and experience to contribute holistically to the Trust's vision for a Wilder Suffolk.

## **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

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### **Essential**

- A personal commitment to Suffolk Wildlife Trust's mission to bring nature back to Suffolk.
- Strong practical knowledge of river ecology, geomorphology & freshwater habitats.
- Clear understanding of the pressures facing rivers and their wildlife in England.
- Prior experience of river restoration & enhancement techniques, including natural flood management, habitat restoration and improving river function.
- Experience of coordinating, engaging and leading volunteers.
- Experience of providing technical advice to landowners, farmers or other stakeholders, ideally in a riparian or catchment context.
- Good understanding of funding mechanisms, permissions, consents and regulatory frameworks relevant to river and freshwater projects.
- Experience in developing, delivering or supporting conservation projects, including managing priorities & working within limited resources.
- Proven ability to work effectively within partnerships, collaborating with multiple organisations to achieve shared outcomes for nature.
- Excellent communication skills, able to explain ecological concepts clearly to a range of audiences.
- Able to build trust & positive working relationships with stakeholders (landowners, partners, volunteers & colleagues).
- Good project management & organisational skills.
- Excellent IT skills, particularly in Microsoft 365 including Teams and SharePoint.
- Confident public speaker who can engage positively with the media.
- A proactive, solutions-focused approach, with the confidence to take initiative and drive action.

### **Desirable**

- Experience of working with catchment partnerships or landscape-scale conservation initiatives.
- Knowledge of Suffolk's rivers, catchments or regional conservation priorities.
- Experience contributing to or delivering consultancy-style advice in environmental work.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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- Fixed-term contract up to one year to cover a period of maternity leave.
- The role may entail some evening and weekend working.
- The role requires an interest in working for a charity that is determined to protect wildlife for the future and for the people of Suffolk.
- The role requires the ability to drive, including a full driving licence and use of a vehicle, though pool vehicles may sometimes be available.

### **OUR CULTURE**

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[Our organisational culture matters to us and enables us to achieve more for wildlife.](#)

Your job description explains the three key areas of focus of your role. What is equally important is how you do it. Suffolk Wildlife Trust is a gutsy organisation - we show courage, determination and spirit, learning from experience and embracing new ideas.

We are driven by our shared values and passion for nature and support each other – staff and volunteers - to be the best we can to deliver for nature. We constantly strive to communicate and collaborate brilliantly, representing Suffolk Wildlife Trust in a friendly, professional and well-informed manner.

### **WILD ABOUT INCLUSION**

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Suffolk Wildlife Trust is committed to an inclusive and diverse workplace where everyone is welcome. As a conservation charity, we recognise the importance of diversity in both nature and our workforce of staff and volunteers. We strive to ensure that everyone feels valued and empowered to contribute to our vision.

