



### Background

The Wyre Rivers Trust is a registered charity with a remit to improve the ecological status of the River Wyre and its catchment.

Founded by three angling clubs and supported by many community groups, the Trust started small with localised projects to improve habitat, especially spawning conditions, for all fish species and completed with contractors and volunteers. However, since 2013 the Trust has grown, became host of the Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership and is now delivering works at the catchment scale with a host of far-reaching benefits.

Projects address a range of issues impacting upon biodiversity, water quality, and water quantity, and tackle these with solutions such as natural flood management, habitat creation and habitat connectivity. The Trust has recently created an Integrated Catchment Plan containing a comprehensive list of priorities within the Wyre catchment, reviewed, and agreed by our partners. Following this process, the trust was successful in securing funding to support the Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery Project, one of a number of national projects working to deliver the highest tier of the Environmental Land Management Schemes. Within this project, there are five posts which WRT will recruit for within the first 6 months of the project development phase.

To lead on engagement with the ~25 land managers involved in the project, we require a Senior Agriculture Advisor. The post holder will be expected to work closely with a range of groups including farmers (both owner occupiers and tenants), landowners and land managers (including local authorities). Within this role, the SAA will be expected to provide detailed advice and guidance on land management, sustainability, emerging markets (I.E Carbon), farm resilience and farm business planning. It is expected that this advice will lead to successful co-design of implementation plans for each farm involved within the project, which can be taken forward and synthesised to form the backbone of the land management plan for the BCLR Delivery Phase. It is paramount that the SAA ensures the needs of farmers, farming, and farm businesses as part of their role - resilient and sustainable food production and farm businesses are one of the key foundations of this project.

The role will be based at the Wyre RT Offices at Myerscough College, Lancashire. The candidate will be expected to work across the entire catchment and a large amount of time within any given week will be spent outside. The officer will report to the Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery Project Manager & Wyre Rivers Trust General Manager.

### BCLR Senior Agriculture Advisor– Job Description

<b>Job Title</b>	Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery Senior Agriculture Advisor
<b>Salary</b>	£34,000.00 - £38,000.00 per annum
<b>Benefits</b>	Stakeholder pension scheme (9% employer, 6% employee) Life assurance scheme Flexible working Laptop and phone provided Mileage at 0.45p per mile
<b>Hours</b>	Full-time. 21 months fixed term from the start date.

#### Job Purpose:

The Senior Agriculture Advisor (SAA) will be directly responsible for liaison with all land managers within the project. The role will focus on the development of an effective and unique relationship with each land manager, collaborating closely with them to co-design implementation plans for each farm. When coalesced with implementation plans from each other participant, these implementation plans will form the backbone of the land management plan. The SAA will also be responsible for ensuring that the needs of their farm business are assessed against any proposed actions within the implementation phase. This will help to guarantee the sustainability and resilience of each farm business within the project, securing the outcomes of the project throughout the implementation phase and beyond.

#### Person Description:

The successful candidate will be a graduate and an exceptional self-starter with the motivation, vision and passion to make the river Wyre a cleaner and healthier environment. They must be a good communicator with a passion for conservation and knowledge of catchment science, freshwater and estuarine environments. The candidate should have a good working knowledge of:

- How to work with the agriculture sector to deliver environmental, social and economic benefits at catchment or wider scale.
- The ability to engage with farmers in a manner which is beneficial to them, their families and their businesses.
- The importance of confidentiality and diligence when dealing with farmers, landowners and land managers.
- The UK Agricultural Sector, specifically upland beef, sheep, and dairy farming, farm business planning and of Environmental Land Management Schemes from 2010 onwards (including Landscape Recovery).
- Working in partnership with owner occupiers, tenants, and landowners to deliver environmental change within the agriculture sector.
- Knowledge of UK food production, carbon sequestration and ecosystem service assessments.
- Catchment and landscape management, with an understanding of key processes affecting aquatic, terrestrial and subterranean habitats and how these habitats can be restored to drive landscape scale environmental, economic, and social change.
- Partnership working and relevant legislation. The candidate will also be required to review, revise, and deliver detailed reports in a diligent manner.
- Data recording, storage (in accordance with relevant legislation) and its use to develop projects for funding bids.

#### Responsibilities:

- To report the day-to-day delivery of the Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery Project Development Phase (BCLR PDP) to the Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery Project Manager and prepare reports for programme sponsors.

- Assist in the development and delivery of the land management plan as part of the BCLR PDP, working closely with key project staff, consultants, land managers and project partners.
- Working closely with the BCLR PDP Delivery Team, ensure that all key deliverables as outlined in the project plan are delivered on time and to a gold standard.
- Ensure that all key elements of risk are managed in accordance with instruction from the BCLR PDP Project Manager
- Review, revise and sign off key project documents relating to land management and agriculture which will support the delivery of key plans throughout the BCLR PDP.
- To ensure that project plans are adhered to and that the works are delivered in accordance with all relevant legislation and the aims of the project.
- Work in close conjunction with partners and community groups to evaluate opportunities for multiple benefit projects within the Wyre catchment.
- Use data and other information to inform the development of key deliverables as part of the BCLR Development Phase
- To work with Wyre Rivers Trust Staff to deliver an ambitious programme of Education and Engagement within the Wyre Catchment.
- To undertake relevant safeguarding training for work with children and adults at risk.

#### **Individual Requirements:**

##### **Essential:**

- Degree level qualification in land management, catchment management or other appropriate agriculturally focussed qualification.
- FACTS Qualified Advisor
- Significant experience of working with farmers, landowners and land manager and providing farm advice on a range of topics including: environmental land management schemes, nutrient management, pesticide application, diffuse water pollution from agriculture and farm business planning.
- Experience of managing projects which focus closely on working with farmers to deliver positive environmental change.
- A good understanding of the importance of stakeholder engagement in the delivery of landscape scale projects.
- Working knowledge of catchment science, soil management techniques, freshwater and upland habitats and species.
- Experience of working within the environmental sector, ideally with a focus on catchment management or river restoration.
- Experience in the management and coordination of consultants.
- Good presentation and interpretation skills with the ability to get complex information across simply and concisely to farmers, land managers and landowners.
- Possessing good inter-personal skills, both face to face and over the phone.
- Self-starter able to work on their own without day-to-day supervision.
- Reliability, good attendance, and work performance.
- Excellent organisational and administrative skills with the necessary due diligence.
- Excellent IT skills to include record keeping, filing and have the awareness of confidentiality and general data protection rules.
- A passion for the restoration and conservation of catchments and the flora and fauna which reside within them.
- Valid driving licence and full access to a vehicle which is insured for business use.
- **This post is subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service check at an enhanced level.**

**Desirable:**

- Member of the BASIS Professional Register
- Member of the BASIS Environmental Advisers Register
- Knowledge of the project area.
- Based near the project area.
- GIS skills.

Anyone we appoint is expected to support policies on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion, Health & Safety, IT, GDPR and contribute to a respectful and inclusive working culture.

If you have any questions which aren't answered on our website or in this job description, please contact Thomas Myerscough at [tom@wyriverstrust.org](mailto:tom@wyriverstrust.org)

**Closing date: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Interviews are planned for week commencing **Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024** and will be held in-person in Lancashire.