



Yorkshire
Wildlife Trust

Project Officer River Restoration (East)

Job Description



ywt.org.uk

About us

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is one of the region's largest environmental charities; our mission is to **drive nature's recovery in Yorkshire** across our land and at sea.

We are one of 46 regional Wildlife Trusts working for nature and collectively forming the Wildlife Trusts, one of the largest collective national movements for wildlife in Europe.

Our vision is for **wildlife and people thrive together across Yorkshire's communities, land, rivers and sea**. We work holistically in nature, thinking globally, planning at regional and landscape scale, while delivering our work in partnership with local communities, caring for local wildlife together. Our dedicated team of staff (c.190) and volunteers (c.1000) work together, on behalf of all our members (c.41,000), in every corner of Yorkshire to make this vision a reality.

Since forming in 1946 with our first reserve at Askham Bog, we now steward 115 nature reserves, which cover more than 3000 hectares of land and include some of our most precious wildlife. We also work extensively with other land managers, communities and businesses, to inspire, advise and deliver restoration work, supporting others too play their part in nature's recovery.

We are passionate advocates for Yorkshire's incredible wildlife and wild places. Join us and help create a diverse and inclusive team, committed to driving change for Yorkshire's wildlife, communities and a positive future.

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is the catchment host for the [Yorkshire Derwent - CaBA](#) and [Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership | Yorkshire Wildlife Trust](#). The team of 7 work across the catchment delivering NFM, sediment reduction, lowland peat restoration, and river and species recovery projects.

This role will drive forward new projects to deliver our blueprint for nature's recovery [Driving Nature's Recovery | Yorkshire Wildlife Trust](#) restoring the chalk-fed streams of the eastern Derwent, removing barriers to fish migration through the Great Yorkshire Rivers Partnership, seeking to re-connect our floodplains for burbot reintroduction and delivering restoration on the lower Derwent SSSI.





Project Officer River Restoration (East)

Job Description

- Responsible for:** Assistants and Volunteers
- Responsible to:** Living Landscapes Manager, Vale of York and Derwent Catchment
- Location/based at:** 1 St. George's Place, York, YO24 1GN
- Date last updated:** 29/04/2026

Main Purpose of the Role

- To be a key member our Vale of York & Derwent Team delivering the Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership (YDCP) aspirations to restore through river restoration, barrier removal and species recovery to creating more, bigger, better joined up rivers and wetlands in the Yorkshire Derwent Catchment.
- To help native species to thrive and recover: including delivering our part of a national project assessing rivers and floodplains for the feasibility of reintroducing the burbot to the lower Derwent, Ouse and Wharfe.
- To project manage assigned budgets and help the manager to fundraise for new ideas and to carry out feasibility, design and delivery of current projects.
- To organise, supervise and co-ordinate consultants and contractors to take the work from initial idea to on-site delivery.
- Proactively seek, identify and implement opportunities for new projects and to integrate project delivery activity into wider Living Landscape objectives of the team and region.
- Carry out land management activities (such as river restoration) on YWT owned land as required as part of a hybrid approach to the delivery of the Region's Business Plan.



Tasks and responsibilities

- Create the foundation for further projects and action to tackle the issues identified and actively work to secure additional funding to deliver these actions and interventions.
- Contribute to the team's evolving delivery of the Catchment Action Plan and other strategies. Deliver any scheduled events and activities which raise awareness and understanding of the value of the project to relevant stakeholders.
- Engage with landowners, land managers, and contractors to deliver practical interventions and if possible, utilise Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) in target areas to fund habitat restoration.
- Conduct on the ground surveys and monitoring and input the work into GIS and other databases. Produce reports with recommendations for improvements and investment.
- Cultivate relationship with project funders and partners, ensuring excellent communication is provided via regular updates, in addition to the production and submission of project claims and reports.
- Engage with key stakeholders and attend (or lead, where appropriate) regular meetings including Yorkshire CaBA, Great Yorkshire Rivers delivery group, Derwent SSSI Restoration Group among others.
- Support YWT land management activities (such as riverbank tree-hinging), as required, as part of a hybrid approach to the delivery of the Region's Business Plan.

Other

- Promote the YDCP, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and partner organisations whenever possible.
- Demonstrate our Trust values every day behaving with courage, respect, and integrity whilst trusting others and taking responsibility for your actions at all times.
- Support and promote the Trust's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.
- The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.





- Abide by all Trust policies.
- Undertake any other duties as requested by your line manager and in line with the post.

Person Specification

Experience	Essential/Desirable
Experience of managing consultants and contractors from feasibility to delivery on river restoration works	Essential
Budget management and grant claims	Essential
Experience of communicating with a range of people and authorities including Environment Agency, Natural England, landowners, local authorities, consultants and contractors.	Essential
Experience of fundraising for projects	Essential
Experience of identifying, developing and delivering opportunities	Essential
Knowledge and Skills	Essential/Desirable
Knowledge and/or qualifications in hydro-morphology, River Habitat Survey, BNG River Condition Assessment, developing catchment wide restoration plans	Essential
Good communication and presentation skills	Essential
Good time management skills and ability to forward plan with conflicting deadlines	Essential
Educated to a degree equivalent in relevant qualification and/or significant river and wetland-based experience	Essential
Experience of GIS and data entry for mapping projects and opportunities for bids and project delivery.	Desirable





Personal Qualities	Essential/Desirable
Good level of fitness and mobility in order to undertake tasks for long periods in challenging outdoor environments (surveying rivers etc.)	Essential
Self-motivated, able to manage own time and work as part of a team	Essential
Willing and able to problem solve and address issues as they arise	Essential
Essential Qualifications/Requirements	Essential
Willing and able to drive regularly to remote sites across the catchment	Essential
Full UK compatible driving licence	Essential





Terms and Conditions

Salary:	£28,804.88 - £32,043.44 per annum (pro rata if part-time).
Hours:	35 hours per week, Monday to Friday. The nature of the post's duties may require early morning (spraying season) and/or occasional weekend work. Paid overtime is not available, but time off in lieu will be given for essential additional hours worked.
Contract:	Permanent. A probationary period applies to new staff, during which you must complete all essential, mandatory training.
Flexibility:	Whilst ensuring the needs of the business and the role are met, the Trust endeavours to meet the flexible working needs of its employees. Depending on the nature of the role, the Trust offers hybrid working (a mix of office and at home).
Holidays:	30 days per annum inclusive of 3 office/site closure days over the Christmas period, in addition to national public holidays, rising to 33 days after 5 years' service. All leave is pro rata for part time employees.
Pensions:	You may be eligible to be auto enrolled into the Trust's Pension Scheme. Terms of the scheme are available on request from Finance.
Employee Assistance Programme:	The Trust provides an Employee Assistance Programme. This is a confidential service which aims to provide staff with support for a range of issues.
Health Questionnaire:	You will be asked to complete a health questionnaire in order to identify and support or adjustments you may require.





Equal Opportunities:	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is committed to equal opportunities and appoints on merit. We welcome applicants from all sections of society regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, disability, marital status, age and religion, perceived community background or political beliefs.
Place of Work:	The post will be based at 1 St. George's Place, York, YO24 1GN
Travel:	Public transport is encouraged although pool vehicles are available. In exceptional circumstances the use of the employee's own vehicle may be necessary for business use, at a mileage rate of 45p per mile.
Training & Professional Memberships:	The Trust is fully committed to personal development and training and supports achieving and maintaining professional memberships and accreditations, with any essential-to-role professional memberships paid for by the Trust.

