



Job Description

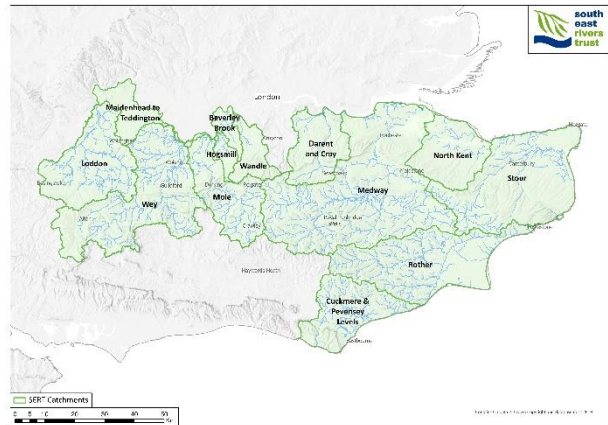
Project Officer (Water and Land Stewardship)

Reports to	Head of Water and Land Stewardship
Responsible for	No direct reports
Location	Hybrid work based at home, once a fortnight in the office based in Leatherhead, and regular travel across the South East.

About us

The South East Rivers Trust (SERT) is an environmental charity that works hard to bring rivers and their catchments back to life. Working in 12 river catchments across the southeast of England, the Trust connects communities and mobilises citizen scientists to educate and engage people on the importance of rivers, while supporting and challenging stakeholders, businesses, and individuals to do all they can to protect them.

The Trust uses evidence-based data to target positive action such as tackling water pollution, addressing water scarcity, reconnecting rivers, and restoring habitats.



SERT's 12 catchments, located across the south east of England.

The role

The Water and Land Stewardship team (W&LS) is a small team within SERT trying to make a real difference to our environment. This role will be at the heart of our growing programme of work to better manage landscapes and water, thereby improving the health of rivers and their catchments.

Your role will be responsible for the development and delivery of a broad range of W&LS projects including walkovers and surveys, identification of nature-based solutions (NBS), data collation and analysis as well as collaborative working with multiple stakeholders to develop solutions and communicate the benefits of our work and secure funding for it. You will work across different projects and may work with and support other teams as required.

This role is varied and allows for an individual to take ownership for their own projects, seeking and developing resolutions whilst working collaboratively with a number of organisations and individuals, as well as learn new skills and grow within a supported environment. You will be personable and inquisitive, enjoy working with numbers, be able to explain technical concepts in simple terms, engage positively with partners, in particular farming businesses, and be passionate about rivers and the environment.

Key duties & responsibilities

1. Site visits and engagement

- 1.1 Conduct physical site visits e.g. to rivers and farm holdings to assess site condition and opportunities, survey to verify and improve desk-based analysis and mapping.
- 1.2 Support the identification of nature-based solutions and land management opportunities.
- 1.3 Actively engage with landowners and other partners to understand issues and support development of solutions.

2. Mapping and data analysis

- 2.1 Conduct spatial analysis using GIS to identify priority areas for nature-based solutions and land management opportunities.
- 2.2 Use tools and models to assess the benefits of nature-based solutions and land management and communicate findings to a range of audiences including potential business funders, landowners and the public.
- 2.3 Accurately collate and process data.
- 2.4 Conduct mapping of project sites using GIS software.

3. Supporting project development and delivery

- 3.1 Complete all administrative duties for projects subject to requirements.
- 3.2 Complete project reporting including writing up site visits and meeting notes.
- 3.3 Project management including budget management and reporting to funders.
- 3.4 Development of project plans and identifying and securing funding for projects.

4. Support SERT staff and stakeholders

- 4.1 Support the team with communicating internally and externally our work including but not limited to articles, blogs, events, and tweets.
- 4.2 Take responsibility with the team and wider organisation in representing the Trust at any meeting as required.
- 4.3 Take responsibility for building and maintaining good working relationships with partners, stakeholders, and the wider community, whilst growing and encouraging new ones.

5. Support SERT's mission and values.

- 5.1 Actively engage and support the work and growth of SERT, delivering the Trust's vision, mission, and core values.
 - 5.2 Actively contribute to the Trust's external communications (websites, social media and presentations), profile and good reputation.
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Person specification

Requirements	Essential	Desirable
Training & Experience		
Experience identifying pressures on rivers and landscapes and identifying options for improvement.	X	
Experience collating and working with numerical data	X	
A relevant degree and/or experience of for example land management, environmental science, geography, natural resource management, GIS).	X	
Experience working with the farming community, ideally on environmental issues.		X
Experience of working with people from a wide range of backgrounds and ages.		X
Experience of project management including budgets, reporting and evaluation.	X	
Experience of working in partnership with a range of other organisations (charities and non-governmental organisations, volunteer groups, Local Authorities and Government Agencies).		X
Experience developing projects and applying for grant funding.		X
Proficiency in GIS and use of spatial models and data analysis tools, or proficiency in the use of excel for data analysis and modelling (including use of tools such as FARMSCOOPER).	X	
Knowledge & Understanding		
A good working knowledge of rivers and freshwater habitats and associated landscapes.	X	
Comprehensive understanding of natural capital and ecosystem services and/or nature-based solutions.		X
Demonstrable interest in the farming and horticultural sector and associated food and drink businesses in the South East, as well as related government policies such as Environmental Land Management.	X	
Familiarity with the rivers in the South East of England.		X
A comprehensive understanding of the drivers for businesses to support environmental work through nature markets or CSR		X
Knowledge of NbS measures including natural flood management, soil management.		X
Skills & Personal Attributes		
Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to interact with and engage a range of audiences.	X	
Ability to communicate complex topics and develop evidence-led approaches and solutions.	X	
Strong organisational and planning skills, able to prioritise workloads.	X	
Proficient IT skills, particularly MS Office and Excel.	X	
Practical, problem solving mindset.	X	
Miscellaneous		
Commitment to equality of opportunity.	X	
Happy to work some weekends and evenings, particularly through months April to September, with time off in lieu.	X	
Current driving licence and vehicle which can be used for work purposes, and happy to drive a van.		
Suitable, safe home working environment.	X	