



## Wild Paths – new careers in nature conservation

Role Title:

**Practical Conservation & Engagement Trainee (x2 Placements)**

Based at:

Devon Wildlife Trust, Meeth Quarry Nature Reserve, Meeth, Nr Hatherliegh, EX20 3ER

Mentor:

Ian Chadwick, North Devon Land Management Team Leader

Type of work the role will be involved with:

The trainee will be involved with a number of reserves across north Devon giving experience in a range of habitats from a former clay quarry dominated by two huge lakes, grassland and woodland featuring bike trails, easy access trails and paths, though coastal heath, woodland glades, Culm grasslands, upland meadows and moors. Our experienced reserves staff encompass a wide range of expertise from whom the trainee will learn about:

- Scrub clearance, tree felling, coppicing and hedge-laying
- Drystone walling, fencing and reserve infrastructure work
- Swaling (managing grassland through controlled burning)
- Stock management
- Surveying and monitoring
- Working with and leading volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds
- Giving guidance and advice to the visiting public
- Community group engagement including school visits, guided walks and events
- Media and communication skills
- Practical habitat management for biodiversity – how and when to apply the skills and qualifications you gain.

All trainees will receive training in key skills such as time management, personal effectiveness, interview and application techniques.



Skills and qualifications you can expect to gain in this role:

- Emergency First Aid at work Level 2
- Health and Safety at work
- NPTC CS30 & 31 Chainsaw maintenance, cross-cutting and felling
- LANTRA Brushcutter
- Tractor or 4x4 driving
- AQA unit award scheme accreditations
  - Volunteer Management
  - Conservation grazing
  - Lookering
  - Woodland Management
  - Leading a group
  - Hedgelaying
  - Coppicing
  - Community engagement and inclusion
- Species identification skills
- Ability to use hand tools
- Habitat management and natural history knowledge.

Disclosure and barring checks

This role is unlikely to require a DBS check, but references will be sought.

Bursary:

£1000 per calendar month for ten months duration

Future progression

This role would provide the ideal background for progression into the sector, working as an assistant warden or ranger.