



Wilder Somerset

2030

More space for nature where wildlife thrives
with more people on nature's side

Job description:
Somerset's Wilder Coast
Project Officer

About Somerset Wildlife Trust

Somerset Wildlife Trust is a local independent charity and the only organisation uniquely focused on improving the natural environment of Somerset for the benefit of wildlife and people. We champion Somerset's stunning, diverse, and important natural environment, making the case for nature to the public and politicians. We protect wildlife and lead the recovery of the environment by example, including on our nature reserves.

Somerset Wildlife Trust is one of 46 Wildlife Trusts across Britain which together with the *Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts* collectively form *The Wildlife Trusts*. We are the biggest charity movement in the UK working solely for nature and we believe that restoring nature on a landscape scale is essential for tackling climate change and biodiversity loss.

The climate and ecological crises require comprehensive, ambitious solutions and urgent action across all sections of society. The crises are also inexorably linked so it is vital that our new strategy, '[Wilder Somerset 2030](#)' is delivered with both at its core. We recognise that people are part of the solution and everyone has a role to play in restoring nature and averting the worst of the climate change. Research suggests that if 1 in 4 people in society take action then social tipping points can be achieved and widespread positive change can happen. This underpins one of our key strategic goals and Team Wilder is our delivery approach to inspiring and empowering others to help nature recover.

Our New Vision

To deliver a Somerset wide nature recovery network creating more space for wildlife, benefiting everyone, and playing its part in helping us reverse biodiversity loss and tackle the climate crisis.

Our New Mission

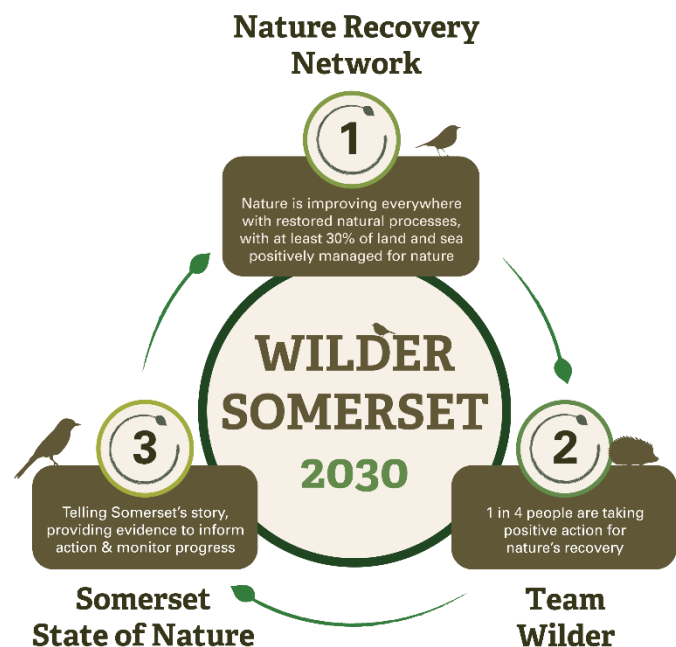
To champion the change needed to rebalance our relationship with wildlife and the natural world.

Our Goals for 2030:

To ensure that nature is improving across the county, supported by restored natural processes, and is connected and protected through a Nature Recovery Network, with at least 30% of land and sea managed positively for nature.

For nature to be valued and protected by everyone, building a movement with at least 1 in 4 people taking action for nature's recovery across Somerset.

By 2030 to tell the story of nature's recovery in Somerset through a shared, live online State of Nature tool that monitors progress and informs action.



About the post

We are looking for an outstanding candidate to help develop and deliver novel and exciting community engagement, education and volunteering initiatives across the Somerset coast that celebrates our fabulous coastal wildlife and landscapes, encourages exploration, and supports local communities and volunteers to help look after and value it.

In particular, this post will develop new and existing initiatives working with schools, young people and their wider communities. It will include promoting our Somerset Schools Coastal Champions Award and planning and leading training courses for learning education providers on delivering coastal education programmes such as the Wildlife Trusts' national Wild Beach programme.

Job Title	Somerset's Wilder Coast Project Officer
Grade	Specialist level 2
Reports To	Somerset's Wilder Coast Project Manager
Team	Engagement
Responsible for	Project volunteers
Job Purpose	<p>To develop and deliver novel and exciting community engagement, education and volunteering initiatives across the Somerset coast that celebrates our fabulous coastal wildlife and landscapes, encourages exploration, and supports local communities and volunteers to help look after and value it.</p> <p>In particular, this post will develop new and existing initiatives working with schools and young people. It will include promoting our <u>Somerset Schools Coastal Champions Award</u> (run in conjunction with Litter Free Coast and Sea – Somerset and Carymoor Environmental Centre) and setting up training courses and opportunities for learning education providers on delivering coastal education programmes such as the Wildlife Trusts' national Wild Beach programme. These initiatives will not only benefit the local environment but will also benefit health and wellbeing through nature connection and active participation.</p> <p>The Somerset's Wilder Coast project is supported by funding from the Hinkley Community Fund (April 2022- April 2025) and is part of Somerset Wildlife Trust's Wilder Somerset 2030 strategy.</p>
Position	Fixed Term to 31st March 2025. Part time – three days (22.5hrs) per week. The position will include some weekend and evening work. The post will be based at our Taunton Office. Opportunities for some home working, in agreement with the Line Manager.
Working Relationships	Internal: All staff and volunteers
	External: Schools, youth groups, community groups, and partner organisations

Job Description – Key Responsibilities and Tasks

- Identify and work with local schools and community youth groups to develop and deliver a coastal education training programme for teachers and other learning education providers (including accredited Wild Beach training sessions with ongoing support) that teach children and young people about the coast and encourage them to explore and develop an appreciation for it.
- Recruit, train and work with teachers and volunteers to deliver activities that enhance their local environment and develops a sense of community ownership and stewardship.
- Promote the Somerset Schools Coastal Champions Award and other associated awards and schemes with schools and teachers and support them in achieving this award with resources and tailored training packages (including assemblies and initial delivery sessions on the coast or in the school grounds co-designed with teachers)
- Support and encourage schools to become Wilder Schools, providing advice on actions they can take in school and linking them to volunteers and other groups to support them
- Investigate ways of creating income generation opportunities through the provision of training
- Collaborate with partners and other organisations active on the coast to help us deliver project goals.
- Use creative ways of monitoring and evaluating activities to assess project progress and support project reporting. This should highlight impact on the natural environment and the health and wellbeing of project participants and celebrate the project and our coast.
- Work with the Project Manager to communicate widely about the project and the importance of Somerset's Wilder Coast

General

- The job holder is required to follow and comply with all policies and procedures of the Trust which includes the Trust's Health and Safety procedures in the workplace, ensuring personal safety and the safeguarding of the interests and safety of all staff, volunteers, children and young people and participants in the project.
- To uphold the working values and expectations of the Somerset Wildlife Trust.
- To carry out other duties relevant to your post as reasonably required by your line manager.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

To succeed in this role you will need to demonstrate:

	<i>Essentials</i>	<i>Desirables</i>
Qualifications	A degree in a relevant environmental or educational subject or equivalent work experience	A relevant qualification in community development, education or education or environmental training (e.g., PGCE, Forest School Level II or III) accredited Volunteer Management Current First Aid at Work certificate (3 days minimum)
Experience/Knowledge	<p>Experience of working with or training teachers or community group leaders</p> <p>Experience of working with school children, families and young people delivering environmental based engagement activities</p> <p>Knowledge and experience of organising and delivering community engagement projects, events, and activities</p> <p>Experience of working with volunteers, either as a volunteer or managing other volunteers</p> <p>A knowledge of health and safety issues and familiarity with writing and adhering to risk assessments</p> <p>A good understanding of safeguarding and protection issues</p>	<p>Good knowledge of Somerset's coastal wildlife</p> <p>Awareness of, and a commitment to, tackling the barriers that may exist to volunteering and nature engagement and their impacts on diversity</p> <p>Experience of working within diverse communities (preferably on environmental or educational projects)</p> <p>Knowledge and experience of successful strategies for initiating and supporting community-led action projects</p> <p>Knowledge of the positive benefits of nature connection for health and wellbeing</p> <p>Experience in the creation of publicity and advertising materials, including using creative methods such films</p> <p>Experience of designing and using evaluation tools for assessing impact</p> <p>Working knowledge of current conservation issues and methods</p>
Skills	Excellent ability to motivate, supervise and train volunteers or teachers	<p>External partnership development to initiate joint projects and work programmes</p> <p>Carrying out practical conservation and land</p>

	<p>Good organisational, administrative, communication (written and verbal), report writing, and IT skills</p> <p>Proficient in the use of Microsoft office suite</p> <p>Excellent self-motivation, initiative, time management and organisation skills</p> <p>Good inter-personal skills, with a responsible, team-oriented approach to work</p> <p>Current full driving licence and able to use own vehicle for work when necessary</p>	<p>management tasks safely with volunteers using hand tools</p>
<p>Attributes</p>	<p>Able to inspire people of all ages</p> <p>Ability to keep information confidential</p> <p>Able and willing to work weekends and evenings when required for which TOIL is applicable</p> <p>Willing to obtain an enhanced DBS check for working with young people and vulnerable adults</p>	



Somerset
Wildlife Trust



SOMERSET WILDLIFE TRUST'S WORKING VALUES AND EXPECTATIONS

Developing Somerset Wildlife Trust

To deliver our Wilder Somerset 2030 plan we, Somerset Wildlife Trust, will need to build our charity, be clear in our priorities and ensure our own actions support our aims. We have a new set of Values that will inform all our decision-making and actions to bring about nature's recovery across Somerset.

- We are passionate about nature.
- We believe everyone can contribute to nature's recovery.
- We love Somerset - its amazing wildlife and its communities.
- We are confident and brave in standing up for nature.
- We encourage innovative thinking and action for nature's recovery.

To deliver our strategy we will:

- Support, inspire and enable others to act while leading by example.
- Develop a Climate and Environment Strategy that delivers on our own environmental commitments within the Trust covering all areas of our operation and land use including procurement, utilities, facilities, and transport to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.
- Use our resources efficiently and effectively, harnessing the diversity, talent and commitment of our staff and supporters.
- Expand our supporter base and sources of income, including through embracing new opportunities to generate income streams that are compatible with our strategic goals and maintain financial stability.
- Embrace new ways to grow our impact and reach, with a particular focus on expanding our digital knowledge and experience.

