



Time is rapidly running out for the red squirrel in Scotland, pushed out of its habitat and infected with a deadly virus carried by the non native grey squirrel. Private landowners, conservation charities, voluntary groups and government bodies are now coming together within two major complimentary projects to try and maintain healthy populations of red squirrels in Scotland into the future.

VACANCY

Project Officer North East – Saving Scotland’s Red Squirrels

£21k to £24k depending on experience

SNH Aberdeen or Aberdeen University – tbc

The position is full-time until 31 March 2012, with the possibility of extension.

The Scottish Wildlife Trust, Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission Scotland and Scottish Rural Property and Business Association, with support from local squirrel groups across Scotland, are implementing a major project to help conserve Scotland's red squirrel population.

Employed by SWT, the successful candidate will oversee work to reduce the threats to red squirrel populations both in rural Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City, promote good practice in red squirrel conservation to woodland owners and managers and the general public, and develop and evaluate methods to address key threats to the long term survival of this species.

Working in partnership with land and estate managers, Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage, Aberdeen University and local volunteer groups, the Project Officer will provide management advice to landowners, co-ordinate grey squirrel population control, manage activities of grey squirrel controllers, and undertake survey and monitoring in project areas.

A key part of the job will be to engage with the public and manage a campaign to engender public support for the project. The successful candidate will promote the project to stakeholders and engage with the local and national media.

Applicants will hold a degree or equivalent vocational qualification in countryside management or related discipline, and demonstrate species conservation management experience, ideally with practical experience of mammal and woodland management.

Proven experience of effective working with the public, private landowners, conservation agencies and volunteer groups along with excellent interpersonal, presentation and organisational skills are essential.

This post requires working in remote locations in challenging environments. A project vehicle will be provided therefore a current driving licence is essential.

For further information and an application form please send a large SAE to H.R. Manager, Scottish Wildlife Trust, Kirk Cramond, Cramond Glebe Road, Edinburgh, EH4 6NS, or email recruitment@swt.org.uk.

Closing date for applications is 27 April.

Interviews in week beginning 5 May.

The Scottish Wildlife Trust is committed to equal opportunities.

This project is being part-financed by the Scottish Government and European Community Rural Aberdeenshire LEADER 2007-2013 Programme and the Aberdeen Greenspace Trust.

