



Job Description

Natural Capital Lead

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| Purpose: | To develop and lead the Trusts Natural Capital and Environmental Markets strategy |
| Reports to: | CEO |
| Location: | Clitheroe (with hybrid home working) |
| Hours: | Full-time 37.5 hours per week |
| Salary: | £30,000 - £35,000 |
| Contract: | 2 year Fixed Term (with expectation of extension) |

Ribble Rivers Trust (RRT) is a regional charity set up to conserve the Ribble Catchment, particularly its rivers, brooks, becks, and streams. Over the last 10 years, RRT has developed and grown into a sector leading organisation, known for getting things done, strong partnership working and a collaborative approach. For over a decade our conservation paradigm has been centred around the “Ecosystem Approach”, ensuring the conservation of our watercourses is providing the greatest services for communities (such as clean water, Natural Flood Risk Management (NFRM) and sustainable food) and the intrinsic value of nature.

RRT has secured funding specifically to develop its strategy on Natural Capital and environmental markets into viable opportunities for private finance and funding. This includes; the United Utilities Catchment Systems Thinking (CaST), the Environment Agency’s Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund, and The Rivers Trust’s Trees for Water programme. The strategy will explore payments for ecosystem services, such as Carbon Offsets, Woodland for Water Code, and Biodiversity Net Gain and other opportunities identified through the process.

We aim to embed the learning and approaches developed into existing programmes and projects that RRT leads or is a partner in across the catchment, such as Chipping and Loud Phosphate and NFM project, Lancashire Woodland Connect, OUR Douglas, Deeper Connections and Tawd Valley Wetlands. Furthermore, we aim to embed our learning and new approaches in the development of new projects and programmes, and in some instances for this to be the catalyst / enabler to new programmes.

As such the Trust is looking to recruit a technically competent, dynamic and enthusiastic person to develop and lead the RRT Natural Capital Strategy, providing technical support to the whole trust team with regard Natural Capital and Environmental Economics, and ensuring Ribble Rivers Trust maximises opportunities in this developing area of conservation. You will be joining a welcoming, creative and dedicated team, committed to making a difference to the environment in our area and working together to achieve our goals.

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We are committed to building a team that represents a variety of backgrounds, perspectives and skills, and welcome applications from everyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, faith or disability.

Benefits include 25 days holiday plus public holidays rising to 30 days with length of service, access to a stakeholder pension scheme including life assurance, free car parking and secure bike storage, and a cycle to work scheme.

Key Responsibilities:

Strategy development and delivery

- Shape and develop RRT's Natural Capital strategy in line with RRT Strategy and Business plan – ensuring appropriate integration with the other RRT Teams.
- Aid in securing diverse funding to support/enable conservation programmes going forward.
- Manage the budgets of Natural Capital projects (existing and developing).
- Ensure the information management for RRT projects are properly maintained and all projects are properly documented.

Technical support and delivery

- Provide technical support to the whole RRT Team, with regard Natural Capital and environmental markets, where necessary.
- Research and participate in the development of environmental markets and environmental goods (such as offsets) ensuring RRT as at the fore front of new opportunities to secure funding for, and enabling of, projects.
- Understand the catchment-based approach and its relationship to Natural Capital markets, and water management, advocating for both - internally and externally.
- Support the team in their direct delivery/management of catchment management projects, through assisting in managing relationships with landowners and tenants particularly around emerging Natural Capital markets.

Organisational

- Work closely with the others in the Senior Management Team to coordinate RRT's wider programmes of work
- Work with the management team to ensure RRT health and safety policy and practice is adhered to and up to date.
- Work with the wider RRT team to promote the work of the Trust

Partnerships

- Maintain and develop RRT's partnerships with statutory agencies, funders and supporters.
- Support team members in maintaining and developing their relationships with landowners and managers.

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- Represent RRT at various Natural Capital partnerships and research forums.
- Maintain good working relationships with our umbrella body the Rivers Trust and with sister Rivers Trust in the county and the region.
- Seek out new partners to enhance delivery of RRT's conservation programme.

General Management/Administration

- Produce regular progress reports.
- Liaise with the CEO on the progress of the Natural Capital strategy and emerging opportunities.
- Actively participate in Team meetings and other Trust meetings/events as required.
- Undertake other duties from time to time as reasonably requested by the CEO.

The role will be based within RRT offices in Clitheroe (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday), but with optional hybrid working from home (Monday and Friday), and duties will be delivered across the wider catchment area.

Person Description

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate that they are exceptionally self-motivated, a natural problem solver, capable of structuring and organising their own work load to meet deadlines, and are passionate about the environment. They must also be a good communicator, and preferentially with a strong background in the environment. A knowledge of the Ribble Catchment and the functioning of river catchments will also be beneficial.

Essential

- Degree level or equivalent related experience in relevant discipline.
- have a familiarity with market analysis, cost-benefit analysis; data-collection, validation and analysis.
- have an interest and relevant experience in environmental economics and natural capital.
- The ability to analyse and interrogate environmental and economic data and communicate your findings clearly to different types of audience, including non-specialists.
- Demonstrable significant experience in programmes and project management of projects.
- Understanding of the catchment based approach to water management and experience of its practical application.
- Experience of working in partnership, including with statutory bodies and private sector.
- Good problem-solving skills
- Diplomacy, good at dealing with a variety of people, as a manager, team worker and in dealing with the general public

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- Excellent communication skills and presentation skills for a wide range of audiences
- Possessing good interpersonal skills, including clear and persuasive communication: written and verbal
- Training and experience in the use of GIS (preferably ArcGIS)
- Ability to work on the multiple and differing tasks identified in the Job Description at the same time
- Valid driving licence and own car, insured for business use
- Excellent organizational /admin skills and attention to detail:
 - Good IT skills / maintaining a filing system
 - Keeping records of work undertaken
 - Keeping records of expenses incurred
 - Awareness of the need for confidentiality

Desirable

- Experience of working in the environmental charitable sector
- Knowledge of the Ribble Catchment

The closing date for applications for this position is the 19th of August 2022, at 17:00, we expect to begin interviewing between the 30th of August and 2nd of September 2022.