

Job Specification

NFM Monitoring Officer

Purpose:	To lead on the internal monitoring activities of RRT's NFM Programme-funded projects.
Reports to:	Strategic Evidence and GIS Manager
Location:	Clitheroe
Hours:	37.5 hours per week
Salary:	£26,500 to £29,000 subject to experience
Contract:	Fixed term 2 years with possibility of extension

Ribble Rivers Trust (RRT) is a regional charity established in 1998 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.

We have five teams focusing on Data and Evidence, Land Management, People and Learning, River Conservation and Core Services. Every team member is empowered to achieve their best. Our teams work collaboratively on integrated projects to improve, protect and create a mosaic of habitats and land uses that will lead to a healthy riverine environment. This is underpinned by a science-driven approach that delivers multiple benefits.

The Trust also works collaboratively and in partnership with a range of organisations, such as the Environment Agency, United Utilities, Woodland Trust, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, the Forest of Bowland National Landscape, and many Local Authorities.

Through funding from the Environment Agency's National NFM Programme, we have launched a series of projects to implement Natural Flood Management (NFM) measures upstream of three communities that are at-risk from flooding: Clitheroe, Darwen and Wrea Green. The projects have significant amounts of on-the-ground habitat conservation activities, including leaky dams, wetland creation, tree planting and moorland restoration. The projects also have elements of community engagement and volunteering.

This role will undertake the monitoring of the impact of the NFM measures, specifically focusing on flood risk in the affected communities, localised hydrological regimes, water quality and habitat quality. The role will also work with Citizen Science volunteers to aid in the monitoring.

As such, the Trust is looking to recruit a competent and enthusiastic person who will be joining a creative team, committed to making a difference to the environment and local communities. This person will have knowledge of delivering monitoring of Natural Flood Management projects.

The successful candidate will have knowledge of topics such as catchment-scale hydrological processes, ecosystem services, river restoration, and how physical improvement projects deliver these topics. The NFM Monitoring Officer responsibilities are to:

- Conduct monitoring of the Trust's NFM Programme projects in-line with each of the projects' monitoring plans and the Environment Agency's requirements.
- Undertake fieldwork and reporting covering areas such as river levels, river discharge measurements, rainfall, water quality and habitat quality.
- Keep up to date with relevant research and monitoring techniques to aid in project/monitoring design.
- Procurement, preparation and installation of monitoring equipment.
- Conduct manual monitoring both regularly and reactively (within normal working hours) in response to rainfall events.
- Regular download of data from automated in-field monitoring equipment.
- Maintenance of monitoring equipment.
- Conduct lone and group fieldwork.
- Work alongside other Trust team members to coordinate Citizen Scientists and run Citizen Science events.
- Save all monitoring data in-line with Ribble Rivers Trust's Information Management System, and in-line with any project-specific requirements.
- Analyse data from monitoring and investigative activities and communicate results in-line with the project objectives and in an audience-appropriate manner.
- Communicate results and data to the wider Trust team on an ongoing and as-required basis. In particular, the Project Managers overseeing the design and delivery of the NFM interventions.
- Contribute to the wider Data and Evidence Team's programme of activities
- Contribute and assist in the production of publicity and marketing materials
- Any other reasonable duties as required by RRT.

Some of the benefits of working for Ribble Rivers Trust:

- The post holder will be based in a hybrid working environment, based a minimum of 3 days a week at RRT's offices in Clitheroe (Tuesday to Thursday), with the option to then work 2 days a week from home (Monday and Friday) subject to operational requirements.
- The Trust operate core hours of 10:00 – 16:00, and remaining contracted hours can be undertaken flexibly, as well as a TOIL policy where extended working is required.
- Following the probationary period, we offer entry into our Stakeholder Pension Scheme.
- 25 days annual leave (plus bank holidays), rising by 1 day for each years' service to a maximum of 30 days total.
- Opportunities for growth and learning through internal and external training, as well as opportunities to try different roles and responsibilities, supporting professional development.
- 45p per mile for work travel from place of work to site, claimed through expenses.
- Regular team away days, and social activities.

Person Description

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate that they are self-motivated and passionate about managing and improving riverine environments. They must be a good communicator with a strong background in the hydrology sector, have a keen eye for detail and be enthusiastic about engaging the public and involving volunteers.

Essential

- Degree-level or equivalent related experience in the environmental (particularly freshwater) or hydrology sectors
- Significant knowledge and understanding of freshwater ecosystems
- Knowledge and experience of a range of survey techniques, particularly hydrological monitoring.
- Knowledge and experience of the analysis, interpretation and presentation of results in an audience-appropriate manner and in a range of formats.
- Good knowledge of catchment hydrological processes and how they interact to impact flood risk.
- Experience of successful project monitoring, including producing reports
- Knowledge of, and experience in, ensuring compliance with various environmental consents and permits
- Ability to use GIS (preferably ArcGIS) for interpretation and presentation of data and evidence
- Ability to work on the differing tasks identified in the Job Description at the same time

- Excellent presentation skills and communication skills for a wide range of audiences
- Possessing good interpersonal skills, both face-to-face and over the phone
- Reliable, a strong work ethic and good attendance
- Ability to set performance objectives and ensure these are achieved
- Valid driving license and own car, insured for business use
- Excellent organisation / admin skills and attention to detail:
 - Good IT skills and proficient in Microsoft Office Software
 - Excellent record keeping and information management
 - Keeping records of expenses incurred
 - Awareness of the need for confidentiality

Desirable

- Knowledge of the project area
- Experience of working in the non-profit sector