



giving
nature
a home

Nature is in trouble – be part of the solution

Senior Project Manager – Turtle Dove Test & Trial, (location flexible within or close to East Anglia)

£32,400 - £35,944 per annum

Introduction



Hello, and thank you for your interest in the role of Senior Project Manager - Turtle Dove Test & Trial for the RSPB (location flexible within or close to East Anglia).

This is a golden opportunity to help shape the future of environmental land management in England, whilst helping to save our fastest declining bird - the Turtle Dove.

We are looking for someone with exceptional project management skills and research experience to lead the ongoing Defra-funded Turtle Dove Reverse Auction Test & Trial. This project is investigating the use of novel and innovative approaches to deliver bespoke land management necessary to recover threatened and declining farmland wildlife, and determining whether reverse auctions could form a component of future environmental land management systems.

We need someone who is able to lead the successful delivery of this project to completion at the end of December 2022, particularly the vital research and learning phase to summarise learning and deliver recommendations to Defra and the project team.

If this role sounds like the perfect fit for you, and you've got the capabilities that we are looking for, I'd love to hear from you.

Mike Shurmer
Head of Species England

About the role

You will be a part of helping to shape the future of environmental land management support for farmers and wildlife, whilst contributing to the RSPB's work to save the fastest declining bird species in England - the turtle dove. This will be through leading the ongoing Defra-funded Turtle Dove Test & Trial, which is investigating the capability of reverse auction mechanisms to deliver land management for farmland wildlife as part of future environmental land management schemes.

Funded by the Defra Test & Trials programme, the RSPB has been trialing a new way of funding habitat creation for farmland wildlife through agri-environment schemes. Through EnTrade's Reverse Auction platform, farmers and land managers in four zones in Norfolk and Suffolk have been tendering bids to create and manage bespoke habitats for turtle dove.

With the auctions due to complete in June, the project is moving into a critical learning phase. In particular you will be:

- Leading the vital learning phase of the project. This will use a social science approach to collect unbiased qualitative and quantitative data from the farmers and land managers who have engaged with the project, analysing this information to summarise learning.
- Supporting the Farm Advisor to work with farmers to deliver the land management measures that they have successfully bid for through the reverse auctions.

You will need to use the full project management toolkit to lead the successful delivery of this project in line with the budget and funding agreement. You will also produce progress reports and deliver final recommendations for the project team and Defra.

This is a fixed term contract to the **end of December 2022**, and can be offered on a secondment basis. Whilst the location is flexible, you will be required to travel to the project areas in East Anglia on a regular basis.



About you

We believe our work makes a real difference to the world we live in. It takes a great team to save nature and we need a wide range of skills to make it happen.

You'll come to us armed with exceptional project management skills and experience of leading and delivering complex projects. This will be allied to a love for the natural world and a commitment to its conservation. You will have an understanding of farming systems, agri-environment schemes and their economics, and the threats to declining farmland wildlife.

You will be able to lead the vital research and learning phase of the project, with experience in communicating and collating learning. You will be able to collect and critically assess qualitative and quantitative information from the farmers and land managers who have engaged with the project, using a robust and methodical approach. You will be adaptable, with excellent problem-solving skills, and an ability to find creative solutions.

You will be brilliant with people and an excellent communicator, able to work collaboratively with others to achieve shared outcomes. This will include an ability to work with and influence a range of stakeholders, such as statutory bodies, academic partners, consultants and land managers. You will be a skilled manager of people, being able to motivate and guide, and support others to learn and grow.

You will be committed to ensuring that this project has a legacy, for the RSPB and for turtle doves.

The RSPB's values

Bold

We speak out honestly for what we believe in, aiming higher and pushing further for growth. We seek to provide innovative, fun, and sociable ways for people to get involved.

Focused

We identify where birds and wildlife are most under threat, then act decisively and with commitment to save them and deliver tangible results.

Supportive

We support each other and our sector partners in order to flourish, and make sure our supporters receive reward and recognition for their contribution.

Together

We work together for the biggest possible impact across the RSPB, and with partners across the UK and globally.

Next steps



You'll find all the application details at rspb.org.uk/vacancies

The closing date for applications is **20 June 2021**.

We are expecting a lot of interest in this role so to give yourself the best chance of being shortlisted, it's important that you do more than tell us what you have done in the past. We want to know how you have applied your skills, knowledge and experience and how this will help you succeed in the role. Recruiting the right people is important to the RSPB, so if you have questions please contact me directly about this exciting opportunity:

mike.shurmer@rspb.org.uk

07841 317 217

We will be reviewing applications week commencing **21 June 2021**, and if you are shortlisted, we'll invite you to an assessment day, including interview, on **29 June 2021**.