



giving
nature
a home

Nature is in trouble – be part of the solution

Senior Species Recovery Officer, UK

£32,400 - £35,944 per annum

Introduction



Hello, and thank you for your interest in the role of Senior Species Recovery Officer for the RSPB UK.

Would you like the chance to lead our programme of work to save one of our most threatened yet charismatic species? Could you mastermind the facilitation of a strategy to secure a better future for the UK's breeding wader populations? Do you believe that volunteers have an increasingly important role to play in providing a sustainable future for our most threatened species? If you have answered 'yes' to these 3 questions, this could be the job for you!

We are looking for someone who can inspire and motivate people. Someone with real vision who can see the 'big picture' yet retains an eye for detail. Someone with a passion for nature and a commitment to halting its loss.

Are you up for this challenge? If so, I look forward to hearing from you.

Andy Evans

Head of Global Species Recovery

About the role

The evocative call of curlews has heralded the arrival of spring for generations. Sadly, numbers are plummeting across much of the UK, which holds internationally important numbers of this species. A major part of this role will be to head up our Curlew Recovery Programme, which includes 'Curlews in Crisis' – a new £3.6 million LIFE+ project.

Many of our wader species including redshank, oystercatcher and lapwing are also in decline, suffering from the twin threats of habitat degradation and predation. To address this, we need someone to facilitate the production of a UK wide recovery strategy. This will require a multi-disciplinary approach covering science, land management, advice and advocacy and will necessitate collaborative working with regional RSPB colleagues in all 4 countries and a wide range of external partners.

Recognising the enormity of the ecological crisis, the RSPB is committed to engaging and empowering people to help address it. We have initiated a scheme to train and mobilise volunteers to help provide a lasting legacy for species that we have helped to recover including stone curlew, little tern, cranes and turtle doves. Our ambition is to grow and expand this project to 2,000 volunteers working on at least 5 priority species.

Main Responsibilities:

- You will work with colleagues in Conservation Science, Ecology, Policy, Advisory and delivery staff in the 4 countries of the UK to facilitate the implementation of our curlew recovery programme and to start to develop a wider strategy for breeding waders in the UK.
- You will work closely with the RSPB Country Heads of Species, Heads of Engagement and Volunteer Development Officers to achieve buy-in and roll-out of our Species Recovery Volunteer Network
- You will line manage two Project Managers



About you

You'll be a passionate advocate for species recovery and the conservation of breeding waders. You will have empathy for people and a commitment to affording volunteers opportunities to contribute to species recovery.

You'll come to us armed with exceptional management skills. You need to be brilliant with people, projects and finance; to know when to delegate, when to take ownership. You'll need a good working knowledge of ecology and wildlife.

Qualifications and experience

The successful candidate will have:

- a degree (or equivalent) in biology, nature conservation or related fields
- an understanding of the conservation 'toolkit' and approaches to species recovery.
- a sound knowledge of the principle and practice of project management, including experience of work planning, risk monitoring and project reporting
- a good knowledge of the conservation community within the UK
- experience of managing project budgets, expenditure and financial reporting
- experience of line-management and of working with volunteers
- strong relationship and partnership building skills to work as part of a partnership project team, ideally including coordinating/assisting people who you don't manage

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](https://www.rspb.org.uk/vacancies)

The closing date for applications is **Wednesday 4th August**.

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:

andy.evans@rspb.org.uk

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We will be reviewing applications week commencing **9 August 2021**, and if you are shortlisted, we'll invite you to an assessment day, including interview, on **18 August 2021**.

You must be eligible to work in the UK to apply.