



Outer Hebrides Fisheries Trust

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BACKGROUND AND JOB DESCRIPTION SEPTEMBER 2011

Background

The Outer Hebrides Fisheries Trust (OHFT) was formed in 1996. The Trust is a charitable, community-based organisation conducting scientific research into wild fish stocks and advising on freshwater fisheries management.

The Trust is governed by twelve Trustees representing statutory and regulatory bodies, fishery proprietors and managers, angling clubs, community groups and the aquaculture industry. The Trust operates as a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee.

The Trust works closely with its umbrella organisation the Rivers and Fisheries Trust Scotland (RAFTS), with Marine Scotland, the Association of Salmon Fishery Boards (ASFB) and the Western Isles District Salmon Fisheries Board (WIDSFB).

The Trust is funded from a variety of sources including a grant from the Western Isles District Salmon Fisheries Board, public sector grants for specific projects and by charitable donations. The Trust has previously received financial support from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar and Western Isles Enterprise.

The Trust is a member of the Project Advisory Group for the Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Hebridean Mink Project. The Trust is also represented on the Lewis and Harris Biodiversity Action Group, the Coastal Zone Management Group, the Lewis and Harris Deer Management Group, the Woodland Planning Group, the Loch nam Madaidh Marine Site Special Area of Conservation, the Langavat Special Area of Conservation Steering Group and on Aquaculture Area Management Groups.

The Trust employs four members of staff. A Director; Biologist; Angling Promotion Officer and Administration Officer.

Job Description

The Trust's Biologist will work to the Director of the Trust. The Biologist is responsible for the provision of scientific fisheries advice. This will include:

- the collection and interpretation of fish and habitat data
- preparation of catchment fishery management plans
- practical assistance to fisheries
- liaison with stakeholders
- education projects
- development and implementation of projects
- provision of advice to the WIDSFB; including wind farm proposals; road improvements; forestry schemes and new and modified fish farm applications
- representing OHFT at various meetings/committees

Personal Specification

The successful candidate will have a relevant Biological Sciences or Fisheries Management Degree, preferably supported by a post graduate degree and a minimum of two years relevant work experience.

Accreditation for habitat and electric fishing surveys under the Scottish Fisheries Coordination Centre training programmes would be an advantage.

A high level of computer literacy will be a prerequisite as will a rigorous scientific approach to the technical aspects of the post.

The successful candidate must have excellent communication and presentational skills.

The post will require considerable travel; a clean driving licence is essential.

Hours and Place of Work

The OHFT operates a flexible 37.5 hour working week; normally during office hours although some occasional evening and weekend work may be required. The post is based at offices in Marybank, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis.

Salary and Benefits

The starting salary will be subject to experience and reviewed annually. An employer's pension contribution of 5% will be made. A vehicle is available for work related travel.