



Grazing Assistant

Location:	Idle Valley Nature Reserve
Responsible to:	Reserves Manager
Responsible for:	No line management responsibility
Terms & Requirements:	Full time, Permanent Evenings and weekend working will be required You will need to be available as part of the 'On Call' grazing rota and emergency response service Travel to other sites will be required

Key Purpose

The Grazing Assistant role is a supporting role with set responsibilities to provide operational and administrative support to enable delivery.

The Grazing Assistant will support the Grazing Officer in the day-to-day delivery of the Trust's conservation grazing programme, ensuring excellent standards of animal husbandry and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. You will also assist in the maintenance of the grazing infrastructure and grazed habitats on our Reserves.

The role works closely with colleagues to ensure the security of grazed sites, good condition of tools and facilities, and the welfare of the Trust's livestock.

Responsibilities

- Ensure the welfare of the Trust's flock of sheep, herd of cattle and other livestock with particular reference to the health of the animals and the security of any site they graze
- Supporting daily livestock operations, including assisting with calving and lambing, tagging and castrating newborns, and administering veterinary treatments to cattle and sheep.
- Gathering and selecting livestock into corrals or mobile penning, moving animals by trailer or on foot, and ensuring their wellbeing
- Operating modern agricultural machinery for winter feeding and contributing to fodder production through hay cutting, tedding, and baling.
- Maintain tools and vehicles in a good condition fit for the purpose required and to represent the Trust in a positive manner.
- Assist in the maintenance of the Reserves and undertake general reserve management duties, as permitted by husbandry duties – including maintenance of livestock infrastructure such as boundary fences, water troughs and pipework
- Assist with the administrative and regulatory duties related to animal husbandry, ensuring best practice in compliance
- Support officers and managers with administrative tasks and coordination as requested

- Maintain accurate systems, data and documentation, handle routine tasks and assist with project delivery.
- Work in a way that is aligned with the values of NWT – Ambitious, Innovative, Supportive, Together and Inclusive
- Work in accordance with current Health & Safety legislation and best practice
- Assist with other areas of work and undertake other duties appropriate to the post.
- Develop and maintain contacts with colleagues in other Wildlife Trusts and the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, as necessary
- Welcome and work alongside volunteers
- On occasion, you will be required to work outside of standard office hours, making adjustments to your normal working week to accommodate this.
- This role is subject to a DBS (Basic) check

Key competencies

Qualifications:

- Full driving licence
- First Aid (Desirable)

Capabilities:

- Demonstrable understanding of the principles of good livestock management, primarily cows and sheep, including veterinary and animal wellbeing issues
- Understanding of or interest in conservation grazing principles and livestock management on public access sites
- Experience of or open to learning a range of workplace technologies

Experience

- Experience of working in a similar work environment
- Experience of animal husbandry, preferably with lambing and calving
- Experience of working with outdoor pigs, goats or ponies would be an advantage
- Experience of moving, loading and otherwise handling animals safely and effectively
- Experience of estate management and upkeep of tools, machinery and equipment
- Experience of working in the voluntary sector, or of volunteering

Alignment to Values – Ambitious, Innovative, Supportive, Together and Inclusive

- A high level of commitment, enthusiasm and self-motivation with a flexible and professional approach to work
- A commitment to working co-operatively as part of a team
- Welcoming constructive and challenging conversations
- Good communicator, able to build strong relationships internally and externally
- Self-aware, adaptable and able to work independently