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| **Purpose:** |
| Devon Wildlife Trust (DWT) is a supporter led charity that has spent 60 years protecting Devon’s wildlife by:   * creating bigger, better protected and more joined up nature rich areas; * fighting for nature friendly laws and policies; * building and sharing greater knowledge and understanding of nature; * inspiring people to connect with and care for nature - for wildlife’s benefit and for their own wellbeing.   DWT is part of The Wildlife Trusts, 46 independent charities whose goal is nature’s recovery. Key 10 year goals for DWT are to recover wildlife across at least a third of Devon’s landscapes and seas, make the most of nature’s role in fighting climate change and to inspire one in four people to engage with and take action for nature. We believe nature is for everyone and that everyone can play a role in bringing wildlife back in abundance.  DWT’s nature reserves are pivotal to our mission. They are havens for wildlife, protecting some of our most precious habitats and rarest species. They provide a reservoir of wildlife that can spread into the surrounding landscape. Landowners can learn from best practice trialled on reserves to restore other damaged habitats. And Nature Reserves are for people too – they are a place where visitors can experience nature and hopefully, as a result, work towards our vision too.  In this role, you will be part of the nature reserves team helping DWT to manage Dunsford reserve to a high standard. With support and working as part of a small team, you will have the opportunity to be involved in all aspects of reserves’ management that fit your skills and competencies. Your skills, knowledge and confidence will grow through training and guidance from experienced staff. |
| **What the task involves:** |
| This role involves the following:   * Regularly walking routes through the site * Reporting any issues to the Reserves Officer * Representing the Trust and being an additional point of contact on the ground for the general public.   There may also be the opportunity to undertake small maintenance jobs, and to record any interesting wildlife spotted. This role requires availability to visit the site on a regular basis throughout the year. A great opportunity for someone who enjoys walking outdoors to help us care for local reserves. |
| **Skills and abilities** |
| An ideal volunteer would have:   * Familiarity with the site * Availability to visit the site on a regular basis- ideally once a fortnight, minimum once per month * An interest in conservation work, wildlife and engaging with the general public * An understanding of the aims and vision of Devon Wildlife Trust * A sensible regard for health and safety * A reasonable degree of physical fitness - Dunsford is a sizeable site with steep terrain in places * Live within 10 miles of Dunsford   *Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity are important to DWT*, we recognise that some people may need additional support to volunteer in this role. If you are interested, but are concerned that a disability, language barriers, economic circumstances or other matters would prevent you from applying, please do speak to us. |
| **Where:** |
| DWT manages 62 Nature Reserves totalling over 2200ha in area and managed by a team of Reserves Officers, Assistants and Volunteers.  The role will undertake management tasks across Dunsford Nature Reserve. To find out more about our nature reserves, you can following this link: <https://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/nature-reserves/dunsdon> |
| **When and how often:** |
| Ideally once a fortnight, minimum once per month. |
| **Who is the supervisor:** |
| Claire Inglis, Reserves Office |
| **Expenses/equipment available:** |
| Travel expenses can be claimed within our expenses policy. |
| **Benefits of volunteering** |
| * Gain familiarity with your local reserve * Learn more about local wildlife * Satisfaction from knowing you’re making an important contribution to the maintenance of DWT’s reserves * Get out into nature |
| **Inclusivity** |
| We believe that ‘Nature is for Everyone’: that everyone, regardless of their background, physical or social circumstances, can enjoy & benefit from nature, learn about wildlife & be part of a growing community of wildlife enthusiasts. ‘Everyone Counts’ is a core value of DWT.  DWT is committed to promoting equality and diversity; to promoting a culture that actively values difference and recognises that people from different backgrounds and experiences strengthen the organisation, make it a better place to work and to volunteer, and helps us to reach and inspire more people to better fulfil our charitable purpose. DWT aims to be an inclusive organisation, committed to providing equal opportunities through all that we do, and to pro-actively tackle and eliminate discrimination.  If there is any adaptation that would help you to access and enjoy this voluntary opportunity, please speak to us. |
| **How to apply** |
| Please contact the Volunteering Team at volunteering@devonwildlifetrust.org or 01392 279244 and write a short paragraph about why you think you would fit this role well, and please include where you are based. |