



## **Area Ecologist**

Job reference: REQ0567

Location: West Region (Torlundy)

Contractual hours: 37

Basis: Full time

Salary: £30,427 - £32,615 & over 26% Employer Pension Contributions

### **Job Overview**

Are you passionate about the protection and management of species, habitats, and cultural heritage?

It's an exciting time to join us as everything we do will play a key role in delivering the biodiversity and climate change objectives for Scotland. We're looking for enthusiastic, practical, motivated environmental/ecology specialists to join our Planning and Environment team within the West Region, to help deliver a range of environmental objectives.

Supported by two Environment Rangers, you will play a key role in scoping and planning environmental programmes and advise on environmental protection and conservation management. Alongside providing a key service to the business through ensuring compliance with legislation and providing detailed mitigation, you will help prepare management plans, manage surveys and data, and contribute to national initiatives and projects that conserve and enhance Scotland's forests and land.

We live and work in a spectacular part of the country, with great access to outdoor activities, but never far from major towns either. You can find out more about where we live and work on our website.

Working at Forestry and Land Scotland is all about 'People, Pride and Purpose.' Join us and take pride in helping look after something incredibly valuable to the people of Scotland and its visitors – Scotland's national forests and land.

Together we're helping adapt and respond to climate change in Scotland, supporting the economy, protecting and enhancing the environment, and bringing increased positive benefits to the people of Scotland.

If this role is of interest to you, please see the job description and success profiles for full details of the job when clicking on apply or following the apply link.

### **About the team**

Forestry and Land Scotland is the Scottish Government agency charged with looking after Scotland's National Forests and Land (NFL). While a large proportion of our work involves timber production, we reinvest income into management of the NFL for the benefit of Scotland's economy, environment, and society.

West Region covers Argyll (West of Loch Fyne), Lorn and Lochaber as well as the Isle of Mull. It is an extremely diverse area rising from the sandy beaches, grassland and rolling hills of Kintyre to the native woodlands and rougher hills of mid-Argyll and Lorn, which finally give way to the high mountains of North Argyll and Lochaber. A mixture of commercial and native woodland occurs in most forests and West Region covers around half of the Scottish Rainforest climatic zone. We have more Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) than any other Region and this rainforest restoration through removal of rhododendron and non-native species is a key target of our work. The Region balances timber production with this woodland restoration and the restoration of peatlands, another of our key target areas. Heritage is a strong feature, especially in mid-Argyll, and the team manages a number of scheduled monuments as well as a range of designated sites. Our forests are home to a diverse range of species including golden and white[1]tailed eagles, red squirrel and the Knapdale beavers, as well as many other species of raptor, rare moths, butterflies and the lichens, bryophytes and liverworts which the Scottish Rainforest is renowned for. This role will cover the Northern half of the Region – roughly Loch Etive to Glen Garry, including Mull and Morvern.

The Planning and Environment team is involved in all aspects of the Region's work. Together we work to deliver the objectives FLS has agreed with stakeholders and regulators, whilst helping ensure that we meet UK Forestry Standards and maintain UKWAS accreditation. Working closely with others, the team designs the forests of the future, works to protect and restore semi-natural habitats and co-ordinates programmes required to achieve the desired outcomes.

## **Main Duties**

### **Team management**

- Line manage two Environment Rangers and support them in their duties.
- Promote a culture of health and safety management.

### **Environmental Programming**

- Work with Forest Planners and Programme Managers to plan and specify environmental projects and programmes for delivery, providing on-site advice and monitoring.
- Input into the forward Environment and Heritage budget plans, manage budget spend and update internal financial planning programmes.

### **Advise on environmental protection and conservation management**

- Provide specialist advice on the protection and management of species, habitats, and cultural heritage features.
- Contribute to the creation of a programme or specification of work associated with the long-term improvement of plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS), native woodlands, designated sites, open habitats, and water quality in line with FLS national policies, and in sensitive situations through the creation of conservation management plans.
- Input to the development of Land Management Plans, Work Plans and Work Programmes, ensuring environment (ecological and historical) considerations are taken into account, and develop mitigation and licence applications, as appropriate. This includes the creation of and seeking approval for SSSI Management Plans and management regimes for Scheduled Monuments.
- Liaison with stakeholders, as required, to develop an expert opinion on plans that involve cultural and natural heritage features and implement conservation initiatives.

- Contribute positively to team discussions and regional activities providing in-house talks and training to other functions to extend your influence and ensure good environmental principles are at the base of everything we do as a team.

Candidates should be Chartered or working towards Chartered status

Application closing date: 16 April 2023.

Apply link:

[https://ce0452li.webitrent.com/ce0452li\\_webrecruitment/wrd/run/ETREC107GF.open?VACANCY\\_ID=0934414XDd&WVID=9738092dCa](https://ce0452li.webitrent.com/ce0452li_webrecruitment/wrd/run/ETREC107GF.open?VACANCY_ID=0934414XDd&WVID=9738092dCa)



e [icf@charteredforesters.org](mailto:icf@charteredforesters.org)  
t 0131 240 1425  
w [www.charteredforesters.org](http://www.charteredforesters.org)  
59 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2JG  
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