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| **Role Title:** |
| **Field Ornithologist Traineeship x 2** |
| **Based at:** |
| **Several areas across the county** |
| **Traineeship details:** |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Duration:** | 6 months | | **Hours:** | Full-time – 37.5 hours per week Monday to Friday | | **Payment:** | Each Traineeship is offered with a bursary of £1,000 pcm with an additional training budget | |
| The Northern Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) is a species of conservation concern, has declined around 60% and is on the UK Red List due to these long-term population declines. This decline has especially affected breeding lapwing across southern England. Within Wiltshire lapwing have disappeared from many areas where they once were common breeders. In the areas where they remain, anecdotal evidence suggests that the numbers have collapsed. Despite this awareness, there has been little conservation effort, no coordinated landscape efforts to quantify the changes the population is suffering or help to protect the remaining breeding pairs.  Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and Project Peewit aim to clarify this situation by gaining an understanding of the number of breeding lapwing, their distribution and threats. Also, this role allows contribute towards the work of Wiltshire & Swindon Biological Records Centre (WSBRC) and learn about not only the work of The Wildlife Trust but also the work of a Local Environmental Record Centre.  While WSBRC, along with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust is committed to helping new starters gain that important foothold in an expanding conservation sector and contribute to the vital work of nature recovery, Project Peewit offer the opportunity to gain the focussed experience and skills required to pursue a career in bird conservation  These Traineeships are offered to applicants aged 18 or over.  A bachelor's degree is desirable but no previous training in the field is mandatory. We are looking for applicants who are passionate about the environment, bird conservation, research, enthusiastic about nature conservation and who can demonstrate the desire and dedication to learn new skills.  Most trainees have gone on to secure jobs shortly after completing the traineeship.  **Please note: A full driving licence and car is required to be accepted on a Traineeship**  Each Traineeship offers the opportunity to learn a wide range of skills. These may include:   * Introduction to bird ringing and handling * Introduction to biological sample collection * Bird surveying monitoring techniques * Practical bird monitoring * Drone training * ARC GIS training * Introduction to data handling and statistical programming (RStudio) * Species enhancement work * Working with volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds * Invertebrate surveying * Report writing * Community engagement * Media and communication skills * Health and safety * Opportunity to collaborate with other organisations (Great Bustard Group, BTO…) * Opportunity to collaborate with other teams of the trust (e.g. Water team or Conservation team).   Trainees will also gain experience in key skills, such as time management, community engagement or job application. |
| **Skills and qualifications you can expect to gain:** |
| * Emergency First Aid at Work +F * Species survey and identification skills * Drone licencing * Bird surveying monitoring techniques |
| **Disclosure and barring checks:** |
| A DBS check may be required to participate in certain activities. |
| **Bursary:** |
| £1,000 per calendar month for six months duration.  A training budget and PPE are provided in addition to the bursary. |
| **To apply:** |
| Please complete the application form ensuring in the ‘Motivation’ section you explain why you feel you are a suitable candidate for a Traineeship and how this opportunity would benefit your future career path and send to [recruitment@wiltshirewildlife.org](mailto:recruitment@wiltshirewildlife.org)  If you would like to discuss this opportunity informally, please contact Aurora Gonzalo Tarodo at 07497606290 or at [aurorag@wiltshirewildlife.org](mailto:aurorag@wiltshirewildlife.org)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Closing Date for applications:** | **9:00 am on Tuesday 7th January 2025** | | **Interviews:** | **Monday 20th January 2025** | | **Location:** | **Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Elm Tree Court Long Street Devizes Wiltshire SN10 1NJ** | | **Traineeship start date:** | Monday 10**th** February 2025 | |

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust is proud to be an Equal Opportunities Employer