

Job Description

Ranger Apprentice	
Hourly Rate	National Minimum Wage for Apprenticeships for 12 months followed by 3 months at National Minimum Wage
Directorate	Operations
Place of Employment	Broads Authority Dockyard Griffin Lane (based with Yare Ranger team)

Main Purpose of the Job:

To assist in the carrying out of patrolling, construction and practical maintenance projects which help maintain and enhance the Broads National Park, Rivers and waterways. Utilising skills and developing knowledge to assist in providing sustainable countryside & waterway projects working on a variety of sites and locations that make up the Broads National Park.

Main Activities and Responsibilities:

1. Working under guidance from an experienced Ranger you will assist in practical maintenance works, including but not restricted to:
 - Construction & repair of boardwalks & bridges
 - Repair of timber structures & outdoor furniture
 - Construction & repair of footways
 - Scrub clearance (using Clearing Saws & Chainsaws)
 - Tree management & felling operations
 - Control of invasive species
 - Carry out species mitigation surveys
 - Carry out species monitoring surveys
 - Construct, maintain and repair post & wire fencing
 - Carry out Health & Safety site risk assessments
 - Carry out site inspections and report defects
 - Use of various machinery including chainsaws, brushcutter, clearing saw and hedgecutters
 - Use of Broads Authority launches and vessels to patrol and maintain the Broads National Park
 - Use and carry out basic maintenance on small handheld power tools
 - Safe use of herbicides
 - Habitat management in wetland environments
 - Grazing Pony/Cattle management.

2. To be responsible for the safe operation of the vehicles, vessels/ work boats and plant in connection with Broads Authority operational works.

3. To operate a wide variety of different equipment including chainsaws to CS30/CS31 level, pumps, spraying equipment, brushcutters, woodwork and metal work machinery and other handheld power tools.
4. To undertake the required paperwork needed for timesheets, health and safety procedures, and work allocation recording. Collate, document and prepare evidence required to demonstrate learning objectives within the required Diploma syllabus.
5. To assist with the security of all plant and equipment in accordance with operational requirements; and the safe mooring of the Authority's work vessels with regard to tides, and location ensuring they are safely and securely moored when unattended as instructed by the Ranger, Senior Ranger or Head of Ranger Services.
6. To assist in all aspects of the Broads Authority's conservation and navigation management programme, including scrub and tree clearance, removal of unwanted vegetation growth, maintenance of furniture and general maintenance duties within a public environment.
7. To assist with basic tool maintenance and servicing as directed. To include sharpening of chainsaws, air filter changes and general tool upkeep and cleanliness.
8. To work flexibly across the areas as required by operational need and to carry out other duties commensurate to the nature and grade of the post as directed by the line manager and/or Head of Ranger Services.
9. Working with the Rangers, attend and provide assistance and support at events and schools in order to promote a greater understanding of the special qualities of the Broads.
10. Monitor and record the condition of sites, priority rights of way and permissive paths and visitor facilities and carry out minor works to improve access, biodiversity and public safety

Key Relationships:

1. Reports directly to the Senior Ranger with a nominated Mentor (Ranger) Regular observations will be carried out by an approved College Tutor.
2. The Apprentice will also work closely with the Senior Ranger, Rangers, Operations Technicians, ecologists to ensure the broad range of projects and skills are delivered and knowledge gained.
3. Assist staff with small groups of volunteers
4. To have consideration for the boating and general public, including riverside business owners and landowners, members of other Public Services including the Emergency Services, HM Coastguard, Port & Harbour Authority, Environment Agency, Natural England and other Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

Person Profile

Specification	Essential	Desirable
Education & Qualifications	4 GCSE's at Grade A-E or 9-3 including English and Maths	
Specialist Knowledge & Skills	<p>An aptitude within a range of construction skills such as, surfacing, earthworks, landscaping, timber construction, general building work and scrub and tree clearance.</p> <p>Able to understand risk assessments and method statements.</p>	Boat handling experience/skills
Mental Skills	<p>The post will require the use of judgemental, creative and developmental skills to solve varied problems over the short term.</p> <p>A flexible approach and attitude to working tasks and the ability to take instruction and learn quickly.</p>	
Interpersonal & Communication Skills	<p>The post will involve talking to members of the public and staff whilst on site e.g. explaining nature of the project.</p> <p>To be able to represent the Authority positively through communication with landowners and members of the public.</p> <p>Tact will be required when dealing with the public on site.</p> <p>The ability to present learning objectives in a manner commensurate with a Level 2 intermediate apprenticeship.</p>	Some level of leadership capability in safety/risk situations.

Specification	Essential	Desirable
Physical Skills	<p>Good level of physical fitness and mobility to withstand periodic high levels of physical activity.</p> <p>The team is expected to deliver projects of a high specification and therefore the job has a high demand for precision.</p>	<p>Certification in Chainsaw and/or Brush Cutting</p> <p>Basic understanding and application of construction skills.</p>
Initiative & Independence	<p>Able to work as an individual, whilst under supervision or as part of a team.</p> <p>To be able to discuss and offer solutions to minor site based constructional or operational problems.</p>	
Physical Demands	<p>The construction of piled moorings, boardwalks, erection of fences and stiles, replacing fendering, building paths and large amounts of tree felling requires considerable physical demands with periodic requirements for very high physical effort.</p> <p>The use of large work vessels, wherries, tugs, etc requires prolonged periods of sitting in constrained position in wheelhouses.</p>	
Mental Demands	<p>The use of works vessels and other plant and equipment requires prolonged periods of concentrated sensory attention.</p>	

Specification	Essential	Desirable
Emotional Demands	Contact with the public, landowners, suppliers and contractors may occasionally place emotional demands on the post holder. Work involving restriction / closure of the navigation can bring the postholder into contact with discontented members of the public.	
Responsibility for People	The Apprentice will be aware of the appropriate health and safety precautions required on site, which will have some direct impact of the well-being of the public.	
Responsibility for Supervision	The post holder will be responsible for working in accordance with risk assessments/ method statements whilst on site but has no supervisory responsibility.	
Responsibility for Financial Resources	To be aware of financial process and procedures as governed by the Broads Authority.	
Responsibility for Physical Resources	Able to understand designs so that they work on site and responsible for the cleaning and checking of a wide range of equipment and vessels.	
Working Conditions	Considerable exposure to all weather conditions, all year round.	

Last updated: June 2024