

## **Data & Evidence Officer – Coast to Coast Nature Trail Project**

Host organisation: National Trails UK

Salary: £35,000 (0.6 FTE) (i.e. £21,000 actual salary)

Start date: Monday 15 June or as soon as thereafter

Hybrid working at either the Lake District National Park Office in Kendal or the Yorkshire Dales National Park Office in Bainbridge, with occasional travel (funded) along the Coast to Coast National Trail corridor.

Contract: 12 months fixed-term with potential to extend, subject to funding

Reporting to National Trails UK's Nature Recovery Programme Manager.

### **Main Purpose of the Role**

The Data & Evidence Officer will support the Coast to Coast Scoping the Nature Trail Project by collating, analysing, and managing data to guide future planning.

Working closely with the Coast to Coast Nature Trail Project Manager and Project Engagement Officer, the postholder will help build a clear evidence base that demonstrates the project's contribution to national targets and long-term outcomes for people and nature.

### **Main Duties and Responsibilities**

- Collate and review existing research, datasets, and reports to identify opportunities for people and nature along the trail corridor.
- Manage the habitat baseline pilot and ensure outputs inform strategic planning and delivery.
- Integrate collected data into the National Trails Nature Hub (ArcGIS).
- Work with stakeholders to identify data gaps and propose additional evidence collection where needed.
- Ensure data is consistent with national biodiversity monitoring standards and the UK common evidence base.
- Provide reports and visual summaries to inform project planning and communicate findings to partners.
- Share learning across the National Trails network and Steering group partnerships

## Person Specification

- Experience in collating and interpreting large datasets (quantitative and qualitative)
- Working knowledge of GIS particularly using ArcGIS Pro and ArcGIS Online
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills with attention to detail.
- Experience managing contracts and budgets
- Understanding of ecological principles and biodiversity datasets.
- Experience with stakeholder engagement and communication.
- Commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion in data and research practices.
- Experience working with a membership organisation is desirable but not essential.

## Terms and Conditions

Host: National Trails UK.

Contract: 1-year fixed term, 3 days per week.

Hybrid working at the Lake District National Park Office in Kendal or the Yorkshire Dales National Park Office in Bainbridge, with occasional travel along the Coast to Coast National Trail corridor.

Annual leave: 25 days pro rata plus office closure between Christmas and New Year.

## To apply

To apply for this role, please email Hannah ([hannah@nationaltrails.uk](mailto:hannah@nationaltrails.uk)), with Data & Evidence Officer in the subject field:

- CV (up to 2 pages)
- An informal cover letter (up to 2 pages), OR a three minute video, sent via WeTransfer, which shows how your experience and skills make you suitable for this role and in particular why working with the Coast to Coast Scoping the Nature Trail Project and National Trails UK is of interest to you. This could include links to relevant pieces of work

Applications should be sent by **midnight Wednesday 29 April**. Interviews will be held online on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May.

## Scoping the Coast to Coast Nature Trail Project – Summary

This project is made possible with The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Thanks to National Lottery players, we will be exploring the creation of an extensive wildlife rich corridor of at least 60,000 hectares, along and around the newly designated Coast to Coast National Trail. The route spans three National Parks, a National Landscape and two Heritage Coasts, and has recently benefitted from upgraded signage and surfacing.

Around 77 per cent of the route lies within protected, nature-rich landscapes and Local Nature Recovery Strategies highlight key stretches as vital ecological links across a range of important habitats.

This project will assess the feasibility of creating a wildlife rich corridor to protect habitats and wildlife and create a coordinated, resilient and financially sustainable foundation for future nature recovery. New engaging materials will help trail users understand the landscapes they pass through and the role the route has in restoring nature at scale.

It will deliver three key outputs to support a further application to National Lottery Heritage Fund for delivering the next phase of the nature trail project.

These are:

- **People centred nature recovery**
  - Kickstarting a vision for a model of people-centred conservation, stakeholder engagement will be at the heart of the project.
- **Structures for landscape scale delivery**
  - Embedding strong and inclusive structures and ways of working that will ensure that is in the best place to deliver at scale, with a framework that operates across the full length and area of the trail.
- **Data foundations**
  - Habitat survey methods trial and a baselining of habitats and species completed, data gaps identified as well as ecological connectivity opportunities highlighted

The role will work closely with and support a talented team of specialists, rangers and partners, across the protected landscapes of the Lake District,

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Yorkshire Dales, North Pennines and North York Moors; as well as National Trails UK and colleagues from Westmorland Furness Council, Cumberland Council and North Yorkshire Council.

