

Paid Coast to Coast Path Habitat Surveying Experience for 18-30 year olds

National Trails UK's Nature Recovery Programme aspires for the 5,500 miles of the National Trail network to be corridors for people and nature.

This summer we will be accelerating this vision across three pilots on the Cotswold Way, The Ridgeway and the Coast to Coast Path.

But this vision can't happen without the next generation of ecologists and environmental scientists.

We recognise getting your first role in the environmental sector can be challenging and that is why we are seeking young people to support us with our Coast to Coast Path pilot. We are particularly interested in supporting applicants from backgrounds currently underrepresented within the ecology and conservation sectors.

The Coast to Coast Path pilot will survey habitats and their condition along a section of the trail corridor near Northallerton extending from within the North York Moors National Park westward towards the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The output from this work will support the development of a local action plan to improve the corridor for people and nature as well as informing the larger-scale, National Lottery Heritage funded, 'Coast to Coast Nature Trail' project.

The participant will work alongside an experienced ecologist from Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, contribute to real habitat surveys, and receive a grant, and professional development support.

*We are looking for **two**:*

- 18-30 years old (inclusive)
- With a passion to learn more or develop their skills in ecology
- We are particularly interested in people from a diverse background or underrepresented community in the environmental sector. This could be because of your socio-economic background, you could be from the Global Majority, or from the LGBTQ+ community. You may have a visible or invisible disability or be neurodivergent. If you don't see yourself reflected in the environmental sector we want to hear from you.
- Based in the UK, and within reasonable travel distance to the section of the Coast to Coast Path near Northallerton
- Availability over 5 days in August to take part in training and surveying (dates detailed below)

What you'll receive:

- Participation grant of £600 (£300 paid upfront, £300 paid on completion)
- Travel expenses of 55p/mile for up to 80 miles/day or the equivalent (£44) towards public transport costs. If you don't have your own transport, carpooling could be arranged with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust with pick up from Northallerton train station.
- Lunch expenses up to £15/day
- 1 day in-office training in York with an experienced ecologist
- 4 days of in-field habitat surveying experience
- Hiring of suitable mobility equipment, if needed
- Reference letter from NTUK and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
- Meeting to hear insights into career and volunteering opportunities in ecology, conservation and the wider environmental sector.

What you'll do:

- Take part in a **1-day** office-based training session with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust in York on Monday 17th August
- Undertake **4 days** of surveying with an experienced ecologist on either the 18th, 19th, 20th, 25th, 26th or 27th August (depending on your availability). Surveying will be carried out within work hours.
- A short reflective piece on your experience this could be written, a podcast, VLog, comic strip, feel free to express your reflective piece in your own way
- As this is a pilot, we'd appreciate any feedback and recommendations to support future opportunities like this for more young people.

To apply:

Please respond to the following questions in whatever format you are most comfortable, this could be in writing (<2 pages), a video, audio clip (<3 mins) or a combination of these:

- Name
- Age
- Email
- Phone number
- Where are you based?
- Why are you interested in applying for this opportunity?
- How do you feel you meet the requirements of this opportunity?
- Your availability Thursday 6th/Friday 7th August for an informal call

Please send your applications to hannah@nationaltrails.uk by midnight Monday 3rd August.

We may be in touch to arrange an informal call to get to know you a little better, which will be on Thursday 6th/Friday 7th August depending on your availability.