Data & Evidence Officer – Scoping the Coast to Coast Nature Trail Project

Host organisation: National Trails UK

Salary: £35,000 FTE i.e. £21,000 actual salary per year at 0.6FTE.

Start date: w/c 11th January or as soon as thereafter

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

Contract: Fixed-term until 31 August 2027 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 Scoping the Coast to Coast Nature Trail Project by collating, analysing, and managing data to guide future planning.

Working closely with the Coast to Coast Nature Trail Project Manager, hosted by the Lake District National Park and Community Engagement Officer hosted by the Yorkshire Dales National Park, the postholder will help build a clear evidence base that helps make the case for the future development of the project and 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.
- Take learnings from the recently completed 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 Protected Landscape or membership organisation is desirable but not essential

Terms and Conditions

Host: National Trails UK.

Contract: Fixed-term until 31 August 2027 with potential to extend, subject to funding, 3 days per week.

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

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

To apply

To apply for this role, submit an application on CharityJob, which will require:

- Responses to questions about your relevant experience
- CV (up to 2 pages)

Applications should be submitted by **9am Monday 7 December.** Interviews will be held online on Monday 14th December.

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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 are exploring the creation of an extensive wildlife rich corridor, along and around the newly designated Coast to Coast Path National Trail. The route spans three National Parks, a National Landscape and two Heritage Coasts, and has recently benefitted from improvements to the line of the trail, 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. 28,000 people live within a short walk of the Coast to Coast Path National Trail, and thousands travel its full length annually, providing exciting opportunities for outreach and engagement.

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.

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

These are:

- **Data foundations**
    - Developing our understanding of habitat, species and existing nature recovery activity along and around the Trail and identifying ecological connectivity opportunities.
- **People centred nature recovery**
    - Establishing our vision for a model of people-centred conservation with stakeholders and communities.
- **Structures for landscape scale delivery**
    - Designing effective structures and ways of working for delivery at unprecedented ‘linear’ scale.

The role is an integral part of a small core project team, working closely with and supporting a talented team of colleagues and partners, across the protected landscapes of the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales, North Pennines

and North York Moors; as well as National Trails UK, Natural England, Westmorland Furness Council, Cumberland Council and North Yorkshire Council.

