

Name – Job Description

Job title	<i>Ecologist</i>
Reports to	<i>Principal Ecologist</i>
Salary range	£28,000 - £35,000 per annum

Job purpose

As a member of the ecology team you will be delivering protected species surveys and assisting on all survey work, from project inception through to the completion of reports such as Preliminary Ecology Appraisals, Ecological Assessments, Ecological Impact Assessments, Mitigation Strategies, Management Plans and Method Statements. You will also be responsible for managing your own projects with support from the senior team.

You will be required to provide the necessary advice and professional services to enable SES to comply with statutory and policy requirements and recognised guidelines in its project delivery, maintenance operations and decision making.

The role will involve complex problem solving and you will need to manage changing priorities and use professional judgement to respond to different situations. You will have standalone professional responsibility for the services and advice that you provide but will operate within established procedures and policies of SES, reporting to the Principal Ecologist.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Actively engage as a member of the ecology team and wider SES team promoting the business and maintaining company reputation and standards.
- Carry out field surveys as required including planning and managing own time and scheduling to facilitate project deadlines.
- Conduct Preliminary Ecological Appraisals in accordance with published guidelines, with support from more experienced team members on standard/complex sites.
- Manage a variety of projects from small scale developments and/or single-species mitigation, to more complex projects (with support from more experienced team members).
- Assist in the co-ordination of ecological surveys, taking ownership for the delivery of surveys associated with own projects.
- Provide coherent and timely project management including, coordination of project milestones, key dates, and on-site survey timetables across multifaceted projects.
- Deliver professional, ethical, high quality ecological consultancy services to a variety of clients.
- Maintain and develop good working relationships with existing and new clients.
- Maintain and develop the good working relationships developed between SES and Local Planning Authority ecologists/biodiversity officers involved in the planning process.

- Ensure that you follow company health and safety policies and procedures, engage with all H&S initiatives and communications, and actively take responsibility for your own personal safety.
- Produce good quality written reports such as ecological constraints reports, Preliminary Ecological Appraisals, Ecological Impact Assessments, and protected species reports in a timely manner ensuring that they are checked and signed off before being issued.
- Provide manual labor support on site when required (within training and qualification competence).
- Take ownership of your development as a consulting ecologist by liaising with more experienced members of the team / management to ensure technical risks and implications are covered.
- Provide ecological advice to clients, where necessary attend meetings face to face, onsite or online / on the phone, maintaining good quality advice and communication in a timely manner.
- Maintain up to date knowledge of industry changes, best practice guidelines, legislation, and policy.
- Keep all personal records, timesheets, and tackers up to date and in accordance with company policy.
- Take time and care in keeping all work areas, storage areas and office space safe and tidy and well organised ensuring shared equipment and vehicles are looked after, tracked correctly and damage or faults reported.
- Undertake other reasonable work as may be required.

Qualifications & Experience

- A relevant degree in ecology or a proven track record within a professional ecological consultancy.
- A proven experience within a professional ecological consultancy, including managing projects, undertaking surveys and assisting more experienced team members.
- Working knowledge of ecology, legislation, and survey techniques, including protected species surveys and mitigation.
- Botanical survey identification.
- Understanding of the application of relevant protected species planning policies; NPPF & Local Plans in relation to development.
- Understanding of the application of the current protected species mitigation licensing processes
- Experience in ecological assessment, protected species survey, and for development projects for example housing, commercial, transportation, and power.
- Knowledge of MS Office programs, in particular Outlook, Excel, Word, PowerPoint.
- Attention to detail along with excellent communication skills at all levels.
- Full UK driving license with access to your own vehicle and within a commutable distance to our office.

Working conditions

- Role requires UK travel to sites mainly across the southeast and midlands.
- Overnight stays may be required on specific projects.
- Hybrid working from home and from the office in Essex will be required.

Physical requirements

- Outdoors working will be required in all weather conditions.
- Walking long distances undertaking site surveys.
- Carrying of light / medium weight equipment.

Subject to relevant qualifications & training

- Handheld machinery and hand tools may be required on certain projects.
- Tree climbing, if qualified and required.

Approved & Reviewed by: <i>Signature of the person with the authority to approve the job description.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
Signed Employee Acceptance	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
Signed Deputy Acceptance	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>