

THE CONSERVATORS OF ASHDOWN FOREST



ASSISTANT GRAZING RANGER

Hours per week: 37 flexible working.

Salary: NJC Scale 4 SCPs 7-11 – £24,294 to £25,979 subject to experience

Would you like to take on an exciting new role working on one of the most important wildlife sites in southern England? The Board of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest have an exciting opportunity to appoint an Assistant Grazing Ranger to support the grazing management on Ashdown Forest, East Sussex.

The Board has a strategic vision to protect, conserve, and enhance the nature and culture of Ashdown Forest as the largest biodiverse heathland and open space in Sussex for the enjoyment, education, health, and recreation of all. We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated person interested in conservation grazing and heathland management to deliver the agreed grazing programme of works across Ashdown Forest. This will involve undertaking all livestock husbandry tasks to comply with the appropriate animal welfare regulations and include all practical aspects of keeping livestock, including stock checking, fencing, livestock handling and transportation.

Working under the supervision of the Countryside Manager you will support the Specialist Grazing Rangers with an overarching goal of achieving favourable condition of the SSSI. The role will have oversight and supervision of volunteers and assisting with the delivery of habitat and species monitoring associated with grazing.

About the Forest: Originally a deer hunting forest, Ashdown Forest is now one of the largest free public access spaces in the Southeast and an internationally important heathland. The responsibility for managing Ashdown Forest on behalf of the Owner, who since 1988 has been the Ashdown Forest Trust, lies with an independent body, The Board of Conservators of Ashdown Forest. The Board, created in 1885, has been regulated under a series of Acts of Parliament, the most recent being the Ashdown Forest Act 1974

About the role: The Assistant Grazing Ranger will be a valued member of the team assisting with the day-to-day activities for grazing our own herds of rare breed Riggitt Galloway Cattle, Exmoor Ponies and flock of Hebridean Sheep. This will be a public facing role communicating via telephone and in person when required, so excellent communication skills are essential. This role may require out of hours and weekend working, responding to emergency call outs to deal with escaped livestock or animals requiring attention. This role will also involve working with the wider Ranger team assisting with practical tasks to deliver the wider management objectives.

For an application form and information pack (in word format) please email: conservators@ashdownforest.org or call 01342 823583 (Monday to Friday 08.30 to 16.30) Own car essential due to rural location.

Closing date for applications Sunday 12th May 2024

The Conservators of Ashdown Forest, The Ashdown Forest Centre, Wych Cross, Forest Row, East Sussex, RH18 5JP www.ashdownforest.org