Kielder Wildlife Camera Volunteer

Role Description



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Role: Kielder Wildlife Camera Volunteer Name of Site / Venue: Kielder Forest Date(s): August 2025 - March 2026

About us

Forestry England are the country's largest land manager, caring for the nation's forests for people, nature, and the economy. The foundation of our organisation is our world-class sustainable management of the nation's forests.

The Forest Wilding Programme has created large, wild areas in four of the nation's forests. Wild Kielder in Northumberland is the largest wild area, covering an area of 6,300 hectares.

Our objectives for Wild Kielder and the wider landscape are aimed at reintroducing or recovering species which have been lost from the landscape or which act as ecosystem engineers or keystone species. We will also ensure the continued recovery and expansion of existing species population such as pine marten, red squirrel and water vole and reduce or eliminate biodiversity impacts from non-native species. The Kielder Camera Survey is designed to increase our understanding of the presence and distribution of key species within the forest.

Role Description

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers who love working in the outdoors to support us in delivering the above survey through being responsible for checking a suite of cameras on a monthly basis.

When?

Date(s): Between August 2025 until March 2026 (with possibility of extension).

What's involved?

Volunteers will work in pairs, or adhere to FE's lone working procedures. We anticipate that each pair will be able to check up to 10-15 cameras in a day. Travel to sites will involve driving in by car on accessible public or forest roads, followed by a short walk to the camera site. Main tasks are:

- Set up and collect cameras and bait/rebait according to methodology.
- Service the cameras on a monthly basis, change batteries, and swap over SD cards
- Review camera footage and record data as appropriate (optional)

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Induction Session

09:30- 12 noon Tuesday 19th August - Bellingham Indoor Briefing Session: Practical Session Camera set up: 13:00 - 16:00 Friday, 19th August - Kielder Forest

NB Lunch and refreshments provided

We'd like you to

- Enjoy working as part of a team
- Be reliable and enthusiastic
- Develop a good working understanding of camera equipment provided
- Enjoy working in the outdoors
- Be able to travel to survey sites
- Have a level of fitness sufficient to undertake the main tasks

We will

- Provide appropriate training/briefing in advance
- Provide support throughout the survey period
- Provide the equipment you require to carry out the main tasks
- Provide you with appropriate communication tools
- Make a vehicle available if required
- Re-imburse genuine out of pocket expenses which includes travel expenses beyond your reporting station.
- Provide a volunteer parking pass after 35 hours of volunteering.

Who to contact?

Christina Taylor- Wild Kielder Project Manager 07979 776061 christina.taylor@forestryengland.uk

Kelly Hollings - Species Recovery Officer

07920 590243 kelly.hollings@forestryengland.uk

How to apply

Deadline for applications to this role is Friday 11th August 2025. If you are interested in volunteering for this role, please complete the Expression of Interest form public.forestryengland.uk/EOI/

Make sure when applying, you type Kielder Wildlife Camera Volunteer as the role which you are interested in. For the Forest, please type Kielder Beat Wide. Then complete the remainder of the form as required.

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Future opportunities

If you have more time to offer there may be further opportunities to volunteer for this work as it progresses.

For more information about volunteering for Forestry England please visit our website www.forestryengland.uk/volunteering

Thank you for your interest