Wild Kielder -Practical Conservation

Volunteer Role Description



Wild Kielder - Practical Conservation; Volunteer Role Description

Role: Wild Kielder - Practical Conservation
Name of Site / Venue: Wild Kielder/East Kielder
Date(s): November 2026 onwards

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.

Forestry England has committed to establishing Wild Core Areas within our forest landscapes. A key tenet of Wild Core Areas is that they will be places of innovation to rebuild biodiversity through restoring natural processes, marking a shift from more prescriptive forestry and nature conservation.

Wild Kielder was chosen to be one of those areas and covers 6,336 ha of land, owned by Forestry England towards the northern end of Kielder Forest, lying roughly between Kielder village and the Scottish border, focused on the East Kielder forests and Kielderhead Moors.

Wild Kielder Vision Statement

Wild Kielder: together, we are reshaping the uplands on a vast scale for nature and people - creating a dynamic, resilient landscape rich in biodiversity, where sustainable, productive forests stand as its thriving heart.

Role Description

We are looking for volunteers to support delivery of our nature restoration work across the Wild Kielder project area.

When?

Date(s): November 2026 onwards, at least until Spring 2029

What's involved?

Volunteers will work alongside project staff members to deliver practical conservation work.

Tasks could include:

- Tree planting, protecting trees and planting aftercare.
- Removal of naturally regenerating non-native conifer outside of commercial plantations.
- Installing natural flood management features such as leaky dams or large woody structures in watercourses.
- Removal and collection of old tree guards.

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- A variety of additional practical tasks as chosen by the project team.

We'd like you to

- Enjoy working as part of a team
- Be reliable and enthusiastic
- Be happy to undertake any training offered
- Enjoy working in the outdoors and be willing to work in all weather conditions
- Be able to travel to the project area (or a nearby office to collect a Forestry England vehicle)
- Have a level of fitness sufficient to undertake the tasks

We will

- Be on site during any tasks for guidance and support
- Provide appropriate training for all tasks you might undertake
- Provide any equipment required
- Provide you with appropriate equipment/tools for your health and safety
- Provide volunteering uniform
- 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?

Rachel French – Wild Kielder Wild Area Officer
07552706895
Rachel.french@forestryengland.uk

Richard Guy – Nature Recovery Manager
07393 760988
richard.guy@forestryengland.uk

How to apply

If you are interested in volunteering for this volunteer role, please complete the Expression of Interest form public.forestryengland.uk/EOI/

Make sure when applying, you type Wild Kielder – Practical Conservation as the role which you are interested in. For the Forest, please type East Kielder. Then complete the remainder of the form as required.

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Future opportunities

If you have more time to offer, or are interested in wildlife monitoring, there may be further opportunities to volunteer across this project.

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

Thank you for your interest