



Manx
Wildlife Trust
Treisht Bea-Feie
Vannin

Role Description

Terrestrial Conservation & Ecology Intern (2 vacancies)

Contract Type: Voluntary Internship (8-months) unpaid

Location: Isle of Man - nature reserves and survey sites across the Island; based at Manx Wildlife Trust (MWT), 7–8 Market Place, Peel, IM5 1AB; residential accommodation at Thie Vunn (Munn's House), 10 Crown Street, Peel, IM5 1AJ

Reports To: Head of Engagement

Support From: Head of Conservation & Land, MWT Woodland Team, MWT Senior Ecologists and Consultancy Team

1. Role Purpose:

The Terrestrial Conservation & Ecology Intern supports MWT's terrestrial conservation delivery and ecological consultancy work, combining **hands-on habitat management** with **professional ecological survey and reporting experience**.

This role provides structured, practical training in woodland and habitat restoration, species and habitat surveying, biological recording, and ecological consultancy practice through MWT's commercial arm, Ecology Vannin. The intern will develop field skills, data handling competence, and professional working practices relevant to a career in conservation, ecology or environmental consultancy.

The internship contributes directly to MWT's mission to protect and enhance the Island's natural environment and to the objectives of the Isle of Man UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, while supporting wildlife-positive land use and development decisions through high-quality ecological advice.

2. Role Responsibilities:

2.1 Core Responsibilities

- Support delivery of practical conservation work across MWT woodland and terrestrial sites, including woodland creation, habitat restoration, invasive species control, path maintenance, and native tree planting.
- Assist with the management of the MWT Manx Native Tree Nursery at Milntown, including routine care and seasonal tasks.
- Help deliver seasonal work programmes in line with site management plans and Action for Wildlife priorities.
- Work safely with hand tools and, where trained, powered tools and conservation equipment.

2.2 Ecological Survey & Consultancy Support (Ecology Vannin)

- Assist with ecological surveys under supervision, including habitat surveys (e.g. Phase 1), vegetation surveys, bird surveys, bat activity surveys, and other protected or notable species work.
- Accurately collect, record and manage ecological data, maintaining clear and well-organised field notes and digital records.
- Support preparation of ecological reports, mapping and appendices, following EV templates and professional standards.
- Assist with survey logistics, equipment preparation and fieldwork planning.

2.3 Monitoring, Recording & Data

- Support biodiversity monitoring across MWT sites, including submission of records to MWT Biological Recorder and relevant databases.
- Contribute to biological recording and data sharing with national and Island-wide recording systems where appropriate.

2.4 Wider Responsibilities

- Participate fully in activities and meetings with the other MWT interns as part of the internship programme.
- Support volunteer-led conservation tasks and assist with coordination on volunteer days, ensuring safe working practices.
- Contribute to public engagement activities relating to terrestrial conservation, such as guided walks, events or community sessions, where appropriate.
- Promote MWT's work through storytelling and contributing content for communications when requested.
- Uphold MWT and EV policies, including Health & Safety, Safeguarding, Equality & Diversity, and confidentiality requirements.
- Attend relevant woodland, ecology, consultancy and all-staff meetings.
- Support other MWT teams during peak periods or major events as required.

3. Duration, Hours & Place of Work:

- **Duration:** 8-month voluntary internship
- **Hours:** 37.5 hours per week (some evenings/weekends for events or volunteer sessions)
- **Base:** Manx Wildlife Trust, 7-8 Market Place, Peel, IM5 1AB, with Island-wide travel
- **Support Package:**
 - Residential accommodation provided
 - All necessary PPE, equipment and training provided

This is a voluntary position with no salary or stipend.

4. Person Specification:

4.1 Technical Competencies:

Competency	Essential	Desirable
Strong interest in ecology, conservation and nature recovery	√	
Willingness to undertake physical outdoor work in varied weather	√	
Ability to follow safe systems of work and guidance	√	
Accuracy in recording and handling ecological data	√	
Basic understanding of habitats, species and ecological processes	√	
Experience of practical conservation or outdoor work		√
Understanding of ecological survey methods		√
Biological species identification skills		√
GIS or ecological mapping software skills		√
Full driving licence	√	

4.2 Behavioural Competencies:

- Enthusiastic and motivated, with a clear interest in ecology and conservation
- Reliable, organised and conscientious, with good attention to detail
- Able to work effectively both independently and as part of a team
- Professional, responsible and respectful, including when handling confidential information
- Adaptable, positive and keen to learn new skills

4.3 Experience/Qualifications:

- No formal qualifications required
- Relevant study or experience in ecology, conservation, forestry, environmental science or related fields is an advantage

4.4 What You Get:

Interns will have free accommodation throughout the internship along with use of an e-bike for travel around the Island. Structured training which includes:

- Regular mentoring and supervision
- Hands-on training in practical conservation, habitat management and safe tool use
- Training in ecological survey techniques, species identification and biological recording
- Experience of ecological consultancy practice, including survey standards and report preparation
- Development of professional fieldwork, data management and teamwork skills

Subject to funding, aptitude and operational need, there may be opportunities to work towards additional formal certifications relevant to conservation or ecological fieldwork.