

# Ulster Wildlife Placement Opportunity 2025-26



**Role Title:** Nature Reserves Assistant

**Responsible to:** Nature Reserves Manager and Nature Reserves Officers

**Role Duration:** One Full-time role available. Training and travel expenses to Ulster Wildlife Offices will be provided with a daily mileage cap of 30 miles round trip @ 45p per mile.

Ulster Wildlife is Northern Ireland's largest local nature conservation charity and manages 19 Nature Reserves across the country. As well as including a range of key habitats, ranging from ancient woodlands and wildflower-rich meadows to important peatlands and wetlands, these sites also contain some of the most iconic and important species of plants and animals found in NI. The work through the year is varied and is an ideal opportunity for participants to gain first-hand experience of working in the conservation sector and nature reserve management.



## **Purpose of role:**

This role will require the placement student to support the Nature Reserves Team in a range of hands-on practical and office-based conservation activities and techniques. Split between desk based work and practical activities, gaining experience in grassland, peatland and woodland management, invasive species control, access and safety works. The role will also assist in a programme of biological monitoring on nature reserves as well as working to collate existing data, identify gaps and implement additional measures where appropriate. The role will also allow for the development of GIS mapping skills and assisting in reviewing nature reserves management plans of Ulster Wildlife.

## **Main responsibilities:**

- Carry out a range of practical conservation activities on nature reserves in conjunction with the nature reserves team.
- The safe use and maintenance of nature reserves tools and equipment – this will include hand-tools and machinery.
- The ability to work outdoors in all seasons, on a variety of terrains, learning skills in a 'hands-on', practical manner.
- Assist in carry out health & safety recording and reporting e.g. the production and review of risk assessments and site safety checks.

- Assisting in biological surveying and monitoring across Ulster Wildlife Nature Reserves: including botanical monitoring, habitat mapping, camera-trapping, bird and invertebrate surveys.
- Review existing nature reserves data and identify gaps, design additional recording activities where appropriate.
- Assist in the review of nature reserves management plans including ASSI and SAC sites.
- Support the promotion of nature reserves work through a range of media e.g. photography and creation of short videos in relation to nature reserves.
- Opportunities will exist to work with other projects within the Ulster Wildlife e.g. education, public relations or fund-raising activities.



#### **Skills required:**

- Undertaking an Environmental Sciences / Ecology degree or similar.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Excellent team worker.
- Motivated and able to work without supervision.
- Passionate about nature conservation.

We do not require practical conservation skills we are happy to teach these and provide training qualifications. However, we do require that the student has a willingness to learn and is proactive about their own self development.

#### **Desirable skills:**

- Experience of wildlife surveying and monitoring.
- Use of a car/driving licence preferable.

**Placement location:** Ulster Wildlife Offices, McClelland House, 10 Heron Road, Belfast, BT3 9LE. Field work will be carried out at a range of locations across Northern Ireland.

Please send a CV and cover letter to [volunteering@ulsterwildlife.org](mailto:volunteering@ulsterwildlife.org) by  
**12 noon on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**