

 **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Bird Husbandry Volunteer**

 At WWT, we create and conserve wetlands and save species. We bring awe-inspiring nature up close and let it do the talking.

In this role you will be assisting the Living Collections - Aviculture team in all aspects of caring for the birds in our living collection which includes rare and endangered species of wildfowl from around the world.

Someone with a background in animal care will find this a varied and interesting role within a supportive and experienced team. The role is also an ideal placement for someone looking to gain practical experience in animal care / biology / ecology or conservation science. Please note, you must be Over 18 to volunteer in this role.

Volunteers play a crucial role in saving wetlands for wildlife and people.

**This role involves:**

* Bird feeding according to best practice guidelines.
* Assisting with bird catches and movements.
* Vital bird observation tasks.
* Maintenance of pens and breeding facilities.
* Assisting with the cleaning of duckery ponds, coops and housing facilities.
* Assisting in ringing birds.
* Help in administering treatments.
* Using training techniques to support the bird team in their work.
* Assisting with feeding within on-show areas.
* Vegetation work.
* The potential for research experience and censoring techniques.
* The potential for experience in bird habitat and exhibit design.
* An induction in bio-security and best practice care.

**This role will suit you if:**

To be effective in this role you will need:

* To be a team player with the ability to work under your own initiative.
* Excellent attention to detail.
* A can-do attitude.
* Experience in bird keeping and practical habitat management.
* Understanding of bird welfare.
* Ability to work independently and self-motivate.
* Good communication skills.
* Tractor, lawn mower and strimmer qualifications desirable.
* Full UK driving license desirable.

**Practicalities**

**Where will you be based?** WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre

**Who will you volunteer with?** Slimbridge Living Collection Team

**Time commitment?**

We have a number of opportunities available for those who can offer from 2 to 3 days per week, for a minimum of 6 weeks, particularly at weekends.

Days start at 8.00am and finish at 4.30pm. These roles can drop to 1 day a week when sufficient training has been completed. Roles can also help contribute towards courses that require practical experience.

We want your volunteering to be a positive and fun experience. You’ll get a warm welcome, including information on training, equipment and other information you need. This will include risk assessments based on your role and any particular support you need.

Volunteers receiveaccess to our sites, and discounts in our shops and cafes. Some roles include a uniform or require the use of equipment or protective clothing.

If you are based at a particular site or office location, you’ll need to be able to get yourself there and back. Information on locations can be found on our [website](https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres).

If you are interested in volunteering for WWT but don't wish to apply online, please email volunteering@wwt.org.uk or leave a message at 01453 891 231 with your name and number.

We regret that we are not in a position to reimburse expenses incurred for travel to the site. Any pre-agreed out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the course of the role will be reimbursed.

We will keep you up to date with what’s happening across WWT and the difference you will be helping to make happen.

**Interested?**

If you are interested in this role, please complete an application form so that we can talk it through further with you.