

**Job Description – Assistant Ecologist – Terrestrial Ecology**

Role Title: Assistant Ecologist

Location: Banbury, Oxfordshire

The role is site and office based. There will be a requirement for travel to sites across England to conduct ecological surveys. If required, travel may extend further afield within Wales.

**Purpose / Scope of the Role**

Due to the ongoing success and expansion of the business, Aspect Ecology has an excellent opportunity for a graduate/postgraduate/postdoctoral candidate to start their career in ecological consultancy, by joining our industry leading team of specialists and working on an exciting range of challenging and interesting projects. The purpose of the role is to undertake terrestrial ecology site work and support in the preparation and writing of reports via data processing, analysis, and interpretation.

By joining Aspect Ecology you will be working within an experienced team of terrestrial ecologists who deliver a wide variety of projects across the UK across a range of sectors including housing, retail, employment and renewable energy, amongst others. As part of the APEM Group, you will have the opportunity to work with cross-cutting expertise, not only in the terrestrial sector, but across other allied sectors.

**What Success Looks Like in this Role**

Working as an Assistant Ecologist within the ecology team, you will gain experience undertaking a range of field survey work for habitats and faunal species (e.g. bats, badgers, dormice, great crested newts, reptiles, otters, water voles, and nesting birds) across the UK. You will also carry out background research, manage and analyse field survey data, carrying out interpretation and writing technical reports. A successful candidate would be looking to progress to Ecologist level after approximately one to two years’ experience, where you would start to manage your own small-scale projects, with increased exposure to client liaison and interaction, as well as supporting senior team members on more complex ecological projects.

**Key Responsibilities**

* To assist with and undertake terrestrial ecology survey work and site visits, including Phase 1 / UK Habitat surveys and various protected species surveys (e.g. bats, badgers, dormice, GCN, reptiles, otters, water voles, and nesting birds).
* To complete desk-based studies and write high quality ecological reports within tight deadlines.
* To assist with compiling tenders for new ecology project opportunities.
* To analyse survey data and produce reporting outputs including ecological maps using QGIS.
* To complete all work in accordance with Aspect Ecology’s health and safety protocols and procedures.
* To carry out any additional activities that may be reasonably required or requested.

**Skills/Knowledge/Experience/Qualifications**

**Essential –**

* A relevant degree and/or postgraduate qualification, with a strong academic record.
* A sound background in or enthusiasm for natural history and basic familiarity with UK flora and fauna.
* A broad understanding of UK wildlife legislation.
* Ability to work under pressure in a fast-paced environment, with effective teamwork and excellent communication skills.
* Ability to travel across the UK, with some requirement for over-night stays.
* A full UK driving licence.

**Desirable –**

* Some experience with UK botanical and/or faunal identification and survey work.
* Experience using Geographical Information Systems (GIS), e.g. QGIS

About Aspect Ecology

At Aspect Ecology, we specialise in providing ecological consultancy services to a well-established base of high-profile public and private sector clients. Our Oxfordshire-based team has a wealth of experience and expertise advising on an extensive range of projects nationwide with a focus on integrating ecological habitats and wildlife benefits within new developments. We are a professional and friendly team of enthusiastic ecologists who thrive on innovation and delivering a high quality output to our clients – see our website for more [www.aspect-ecology.com](http://www.aspect-ecology.com) and follow us on LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/aspect-ecology-ltd-/>.

Our Values

Our most important assets are our people who work for us. We all work as one team and rely on each other. We wish to create a working environment to which our people are proud to belong, by maintaining our values at the forefront of everything we do. These values are:

* Integrity – We do the right thing
* Quality – Quality in everything
* People - We care
* Forward thinking – We focus on the future
* Positivity – We believe we can
* Fairness – We champion equality