



Irish Wetland Bird Survey Coordinator (Maternity Cover)

Irish Wetland Bird Survey

The Irish Wetland Bird Survey (I-WeBS) is the scheme that monitors non-breeding migratory waterbirds that spend the winter in Ireland. Funded by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, this survey has been operational annually since the winter of 1994/95. The survey runs from September to March each winter and there are over 350 people that take part who count waterbirds at more than 250 wetland sites throughout the country. Further details about I-WeBS can be found at <http://bit.ly/1XZdyMs>.

Irish Wetland Bird Survey Coordinator

BirdWatch Ireland seeks to appoint a coordinator for six months between Monday 1st August 2016 and Friday 27th January 2017 inclusive. This is a maternity cover post, and the successful applicant will report to Olivia Crowe (the Project Manager).

Responsibilities

The post-holder will be expected, with support from the Project Manager, to participate in a combination of field and office-based duties. These include:

- Liaising with the counter network (more than 300 participants) to encourage coverage of sites and return of data, setting up counters with sites to count, providing guidance about methodology, and facilitating any queries from the counter network
- Participating in counts at several sites nationwide
- Conversion of data from computer submissions to a format suitable for integrating on the main database, and checking and logging returned dataforms
- Digitising of site and subsite boundaries returned by counters
- Updates of the I-WeBS section of the BirdWatch Ireland website

Skills required

The following attributes are essential for this post:

- Excellent fieldwork and bird identification skills, and proven ability to count large numbers of waterbirds
- Proven communication skills, both written and oral
- Excellent interpersonal skills for communicating with survey participants and the public

- Ability to work as part of a team and with minimum supervision
- Ability to provide guidance as required to survey participants on waterbird counting techniques
- Proven experience using MS Excel, MS Access and GIS software, and the ability to collect, record and process large datasets
- Full and clean driving license

Additionally, a familiarity with Ireland's key wetlands for birds, and the criteria used to underpin site designation under the European Birds Directive is desirable.

Salary scale

This is a fixed-term contract (maternity cover) with a salary of €27,000 to €32,000 pro rata. The suitable applicant will be required to provide an average of 35 hours per week. Leave entitlement is 20 days per annum pro rata plus statutory holidays.

Applications

A completed application form should be forwarded to Michelle Kavanagh, BirdWatch Ireland, Unit 20 Block D Bullford Business Campus, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow. Applications may also be sent via email to mkavanagh@birdwatchireland.ie indicating the job title in the subject line.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 5pm on Friday 8th July 2016. It is anticipated that interviews will be held in Kilcoole during the week of 18th July 2016, with a start date in early August.