

BirdWatch Ireland Seasonal Jobs 2024

BirdWatch Ireland may be in a position to recruit for various seasonal fieldwork posts for the 2024 breeding season (all subject to successful tender bids and/ or confirmation of funding). The roles will involve carrying out agreed programmes of bird surveys, habitat management, research work and / or species recovery work, alone or as part of a small team. Most posts are available between April and August and require previous survey or field research experience and excellent bird identification skills. The posts are outlined below.

Swift Fieldworker (2-3 posts, May – August):

To survey Swifts and work with community groups to establish local Swift conservation projects.

Potential locations:

- Co. Cavan
- Co. Meath
- Galway City

Suitable applicants will have:

- A degree in biology or related discipline or previous proven experience working on conservation projects/ecological surveys.
 - Previous experience of bird survey work.
 - Ability to compile data, analyse results and write reports. GIS experience is desirable.
 - Have a full driver's licence.
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Tern Wardens (4-6 posts, late April to August):

To protect, monitor and study breeding terns. Applicants must be prepared to work in a remote location and in a small team.

Potential locations:

- Rockabill (Co. Dublin)
- Kilcoole Little Tern Colony (Co. Wicklow)

Suitable applicants will have:

- A degree in biology or related discipline or previous proven experience working on conservation projects.
- The ability to compile data, analyse results and write reports.

- Previous experience working on tern (or seabird) colonies and bird handling skills are desirable.
- Candidates may need to sign up as trainee bird ringers (BTO licence), if they do not already have one.

Accommodation is provided on Rockabill, whereas Little Tern applicants need to be able to commute to Kilcoole on a daily basis and ideally should have accommodation in Wicklow or south Dublin.

Kilcoole Little Tern project Conservation Gamekeeper/Night Warden (2+ posts, late April-July):

To protect the nesting Little Terns from mammalian and avian predators.

Note that we will have Conservation Gamekeepers/Night Wardens operating 7 nights per week, so in previous years the position was filled by 2-3 applicants. We are therefore interested in hearing from applicants with availability ranging from a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 5 nights per week.

Suitable applicants will have:

- The ability to erect and maintain electric fencing
 - The ability to work safely at night and in a close-knit team.
 - Firearm licences for rifle and shotgun and competency in their use.
 - Familiarity with crow and mink traps.
 - Good knowledge of other bird-scaring techniques.
 - Awareness of ecology and conservation issues surrounding ground-nesting birds (Little Terns, Lapwing, Ringed Plover).
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Seabird colony & breeding productivity monitoring fieldworkers (potentially 2 positions, late April - August)

We are hoping to assess numbers, breeding success and diet of a range of seabird colonies in County Dublin and maybe Wicklow, including Lambay, Ireland's Eye, Skerries Islands, Howth Head and Bray Head. *Update: There may also be some survey work (two one-week trips) to seabird colonies in Co. Kerry.* Species would include Gannet, Cormorant, Shag, Kittiwake, large gulls, Common Guillemot and Razorbill. In all likelihood fieldworkers will be based on the mainland and travel out to colonies on a daily or regular basis.

Suitable applicants will have:

- A degree in biology or related discipline or previous proven experience working on conservation projects.
- The ability to compile data, analyse results and write reports.
- Previous experience working at seabird colonies using telescopes.
- The ability to work safely on cliff tops and in a close-knit team.

How to apply:

Please download and complete a BirdWatch Ireland application form here (DOC: 114KB).

Note that other opportunities may also arise in the near future, so please indicate other areas of expertise, such as field skills and analysis, when completing your application form.

Closing date for applications: noon on Friday 7th March 2024.

Applications can be emailed to recruitment@birdwatchireland.ie

Or posted to: BirdWatch Ireland (Recruitment), Unit 20, Block D, Bullford Business Campus, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow A63 RW83.

When submitting applications by email, you must include your name and position(s) applied for in both the subject line and the name of all file attachments. Interviews will generally be held during the two to three-week period after the closing date, or as advised, if you have been selected for interview.

Please contact recruitment@birdwatchireland.ie with any queries.