



Reserve Manager - Job Description

Watatunga Wildlife Reserve is looking for a Reserve Manager to take on the overall management of the animals and visitor interactions at the reserve. This is a senior position requiring a minimum of 6 years of experience in a leadership role with ungulates, specifically deer and antelope. The individual will be responsible for the welfare of all animals within the reserve and will work with and manage the reserve warden and up to three other staff members. The upkeep and maintenance of the reserve infrastructure and environment from fencing to planting will also be the direct responsibility of this individual. The role will be a public-facing position and the desired candidate will have a deep passion for conservation and an understanding of the work of conservation institutions including zoos, charities and NGO's both in the U.K. and globally. The candidate will be extremely well organised with experience of health and safety management and communicating clearly with a wide range of visitors. The individual will report directly to the reserve director. The position is full time with an expectation that the individual will be available to work at weekends and over school holidays in lieu of time off in 'low-season'- the role offers flexibility in terms of working hours but also requires a great sense of initiative and commitment since you will be managing our most valuable resource. Accommodation available onsite and salary commensurate with experience. Annual leave 28 days. Start date early 2021.

About Watatunga Wildlife Reserve

Watatunga is a stunning new wildlife reserve in west Norfolk which opened to the public in August 2020. Situated amongst 170 acres of woodland, grassland and lakes, Watatunga provides a unique environment for over twenty types of ungulate and rare bird species to roam at their will. Guest access to the reserve is via guided-tour only. The reserve also offers self-catering accommodation with the option to organise private tours for small groups in electric buggies or large groups in a safari trailer. The team run a captive breeding programme for the great bustard on site and their focus is on raising the profile of threatened ungulate species in particular Malayan sambar, hog deer and barasingha. The applicant would be joining the team after a short but successful first-season during which new projects such as the reintroduction of Mountain Bongo and Roan Antelope to Kenya have become exciting potential focus areas for the future. The reserve is based in Watlington, a village in west Norfolk, 7 miles south of King's Lynn and served by a railway station on the King's Lynn to Cambridge and London line. Norfolk is a nature lover's dream with 40 reserves in the county and miles of coastline within easy reach. For more information on the reserve, please see www.watatunga.co.uk This role is not visa bearing, therefore to be eligible for this role you must have the required authorisation to work in the U.K.



Required Skills And Experience

- Minimum 6-years of experience demonstrating outstanding stockmanship of deer and antelope
- Minimum 6-years of experience leading a team
- U.K. Driver's license, trailer license, chainsaw license, darting license, quad-bike license
- Experience of specialist ATV work
- Experience and passion in communicating conservation work to a wide range of visitors.
- Excellent self-management, communication and organisational skills.
- Proficiency in using Outlook & Microsoft Office.
- Health and Safety Training and experience of assessing and managing risks.
- Proven ability to carry out a leadership role as part of a team.
- Practical maintenance skills.

Desired Skills and Experience

- Delivering entertaining and informative tours to the public.
- Proficiency in using WordPress and social media.
- Research experience (data collection, monitoring and analysis and reporting).
- Knowledge of Species 360/ZIMS.
- Experience of working with schools and running education programmes.
- Experience of writing grant applications and fundraising.

Personal Attributes

The ideal individual will be a practical and innovative problem solver with excellent observational skills and a drive to complete tasks to a very high standard. They will be a team player who recognises the strengths and weaknesses of those with whom they work and strive to bring out the best in others. They will enthusiastically lend a hand to any task no matter how big or small and likewise be confident enough to ask others for help when it is needed. Honesty, integrity and reliability are key attributes we are looking for in this role.

Application Process

Applications will close on October 29th 2020 at 17:00 GMT. Please submit a CV and cover letter to info@watatunga.co.uk with "**RESERVE MANAGER APPLICATION**" in the subject heading of the email.