

ROLE DESCRIPTION Practical Conservation Volunteer Task Leader

What do Practical Conservation Volunteer Task Leaders do?

Little Ouse Headwaters Project (LOHP) Practical Conservation Volunteer Task Leaders run volunteer tasks to restore and create wildlife habitats and work to improve access to the countryside. Practical Conservation Volunteer Task Leaders would have been volunteering with LOHP for several years as a practical conservation volunteer (see Practical Conservation Volunteer Role Description for more details) and considered to be a suitable candidate by LOHP.

Practical Conservation Volunteer Task Leaders play an important role by running the volunteer work parties, which helps to free up time for LOHP to continue to manage and find funding to protect these important habitats. The role of task leader includes undertaking risk assessments, loading/unloading the trailer before/after tasks (possibly cleaning, repairing equipment or reporting faults), organising refreshments, introducing and overseeing the task, recording volunteer hours, and supporting and developing new volunteers, but new leaders would gradually build up to these activities.

You are not expected to be able to do all these things straight away and support, help and guidance will be provided until you find your feet and feel like you can run tasks on your own. Good communication skills are advantageous in becoming a good Practical Conservation Volunteer Task Leader. As your role develops you can become more involved in deciding what tasks are carried out.

If you decide to take on the role of task leader an informal chat will be held with LOHP to discuss the role in more detail and what skills you feel most confident to offer. Additional training such as leadership training, risk assessment, first aid will be provided if required. Ask if you require further support and we will try to assist, where practical.

Where and When?

Work parties take place on LOHP owned and leased land along the Little Ouse on the Norfolk and Suffolk border currently between Garboldisham and Redgrave and Lopham Fen National Nature Reserve which is managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT). We also work closely with neighbouring landowners on their sites such as SWT.

Day	When
Wednesday	Weekly 9.30am to approximately 1pm/1.30pm
Sunday	2 nd Sunday of the month 10.30am to 1pm

Practical Conservation Volunteer Task Leaders can run weekly Wednesday sessions or monthly Sunday sessions or both if they wish whatever fits in best with their other commitments. Other days and times may be available so please ask.

LOHP support and benefits

Your LOHP member is the first point of contact should for any questions or if any problems arise.

There are a range of training opportunities for volunteers to further their skills depending on the abilities and interests of the individual and the requirements of LOHP, including first aid, and various habitat management skills.

First aid

For each task a first aid kit is available and kept in the vehicle/trailer or carried on to the work site. There will be a first aid trained person on each task. If you have an accident, however small, or even a near-miss, please let us know so we can keep a record of the incident and ensure appropriate treatment. Recording near-miss incidents helps us to prevent future accidents.

Contact Us

If you are interested in being considered for the role of Practical Conservation Volunteer Task Leader, or have any questions about our volunteer opportunities, please get in touch:

PHONE 01379 898009 (Reg Langston) or

07919 912045 (Ellie Beach - Conservation Manager)

EMAIL reg.langston@lohp.org.uk or

ellie.beach@lohp.org.uk

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