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**Estuaries and Wetlands Intern**

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| **Job grade** | London Living Wage | **Reports to** | Project Manager |
| **Directorate** | Conservation & Policy | **Function** | Estuaries and Wetlands team, Marine and Freshwater department  |
| **Contract**  | Fixed term contract  | **Location** | Regent’s Park  |

**Responsibility for resources**

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| **Direct line reports** | None | **Responsibility for other resources** | The post holder will support the project team in maintaining GDPR compliant databases, including of volunteer information, which may include medical details.  |
| **Financial resources** | The post holder may occasionally have delegated responsibility for the procurement of equipment for projects in accordance with project budgets. The post holder will need to seek value for money balanced with quality outputs. They will also be expected to keep accurate and evidenced expense claims.  |

**Our vision and mission**

The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) is an international conservation charity, driven by science, working to restore wildlife in the UK and around the world. Our vision is a world where wildlife thrives and every role, every person in every corner of ZSL has one thing in common – we are all conservationists, and passionate about restoring wildlife.

**Purpose of the role**

There are **two internships available**, one will support the delivery of ZSL’s ‘Restoring the Thamescape’ project which aims to recover seagrass, native oyster, and saltmarsh habitat across the Greater Thames Estuary, and the other will support the delivery of our Thames European Eel Conservation and Outfall Safari projects. The post holders may also have the opportunity to support other aquatic habitat and species conservation projects within the Estuaries and Wetlands programme and will gain experience at a globally respected conservation organisation. The post holder will work closely with Project Officers and Project Managers in the Estuaries and Wetlands team to deliver the responsibilities and activities as noted within the Key Responsibilities section of this document, focusing predominately on coastal habitat fieldwork and eel survey work.

**Key responsibilities**

Each internship will include a substantial element of either coastal (Restoring the Thamescape) or river (Outfall Safari and Thames European Eel Project) fieldwork related to our conservation work in the Thames catchment. Additional responsibilities may include:

* Support with fieldwork, including organisation of equipment
* Coordination of volunteers
* Updating and maintaining databases of survey results, ensuring accuracy of inputting
* Data analysis and report writing
* Representing ZSL at meetings and events
* Providing general support to other projects in the Estuaries and Wetlands Programme

The duties and responsibilities described are not a comprehensive list and additional tasks

may be assigned from time to time that are in line with the level of the roles.

In each role, the post holder will benefit from:

* Experience conducting fieldwork as part of one of the UK’s leading conservation research organisations including monitoring the Critically Endangered European eel and pioneering UK habitat restoration including intertidal seagrass restoration trials
* Training opportunities, including an Induction to “Working at ZSL” and health and safety awareness
* Experience in data analysis, report writing and volunteer engagement
* Interaction with staff across the Society, particularly from the Conservation Programmes department, with opportunities to engage more widely with members of the local conservation community including statutory organisations and universities
* Opportunities to attend talks by professional researchers and practitioners in science and conservation
* Access to ZSL facilities including the Library and both zoo sites (ZSL London and ZSL Whipsnade) for the duration of the internship

**Person Specification**

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| Qualifications and Experience |
| Essential | * Some relevant experience in marine/aquatic sciences or similar subject matter.
* Previous experience of and willingness to carry out fieldwork.
* Experience of working as part of a team and of working independently using own initiative.
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| Desirable  | * Experience of working with volunteers.
* Educated to BSc or MSc degree level in marine or aquatic sciences, or related subject area.
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| Knowledge and skills |
| Essential | * Competence in using MS office packages, specifically Excel and PowerPoint.
* The ability to manage and manipulate datasets.
* Familiarity with managing competing priorities.
* Able to demonstrate high accuracy and attention to detail.
* Good communication skills for written reports and stakeholder engagement.
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| Desirable | * An understanding of the conservation issues facing aquatic species such as European eels and marine habitats.
* An understanding of marine habitat restoration work.
* Experience of and competence with GIS.
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| Additional requirements |
| Essential | * Both roles will require carrying out fieldwork in challenging conditions, and a confidence around water will be necessary.
* Both roles are predominately field based with projects on the River Thames and Thames Estuary, therefore proximity to London is essential.
* Both roles will require extensive outside working with direct exposure to the weather.
* Both roles may require occasional work during evenings and/or weekends.
* A **full manual driving license is required** for both roles and to be confident of driving through London and around south-east England.
* Strong commitment to creating a culture that lives ZSL values and commitment to safeguarding, equality and diversity (collaborative, inspiring, inclusive, innovative, impactful, and ethical).
* To comply with and promote Health and Safety policies and procedures.
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