



Senior Ecologist

Sally Cowley - United Utilities PLC

What are the main duties of your job?

Working closely with multi-disciplines to ensure ecological objectives for projects are delivered successfully, within budget and to programme.

What was your career path to get this job?

I have a BSc in Zoology, I am a full member of CIEEM and I am a Chartered Environmentalist. I needed over 5 years experience in the ecological field at the time of getting this job.

What are the best bits of your job?

Working with a diverse group of people, getting out and about to some of the most beautiful parts of the North West and Wales to undertake surveys and, of course, helping the environment.

My friends think I... protect endangered species (animals and plants).

My mum thinks I... chase around catching newts, bats and badgers.

I actually... Assess the impact on the environment, both flora and fauna, as a result of potential development schemes. Completing surveys for protected and invasive species and provide mitigation advice. Undertake impact assessments, apply for licences and/or permission and implement mitigation to ensure that the favourable conservation status is maintained as far possible.


What kind of progression opportunities are there? Starting out as a graduate you can work your way up to consultant/senior/principal/team leader/director level or you can freelance

Where do you see yourself career-wise in ten years? Hopefully working as a team lead or director or running my own consultancy

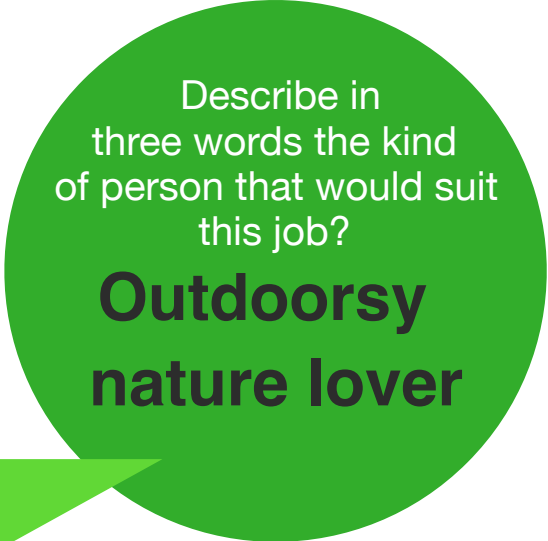
What is your dream job? I love my job! But it would be great to work with orangutans in Borneo....

What was your best single day at work? Spending a hot summer's day walking through the beautiful countryside taking note of what animals and plants I see along the way.

When you tell people what you do for a living, they usually say ... "a what?" Or "oh that's interesting".



Average salary
for this role
£28,000



Describe in
three words the kind
of person that would suit
this job?

**Outdoorsy
nature lover**



And the
most
challenging part of your job? Ensuring
that surveys and mitigation are
done at the correct
time of year and
within the developers'
timescale.