



## 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.

**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 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.

**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

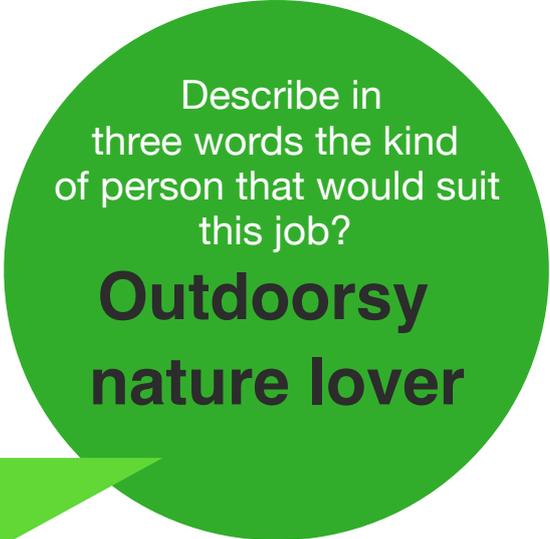
**What is your dream job?** I love my job! But it would be great to work with orangutans in Borneo....

**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.