

About Cumbria Wildlife Trust

As one of 46 independent Wildlife Trusts, we are a local wildlife conservation charity. Cumbria Wildlife Trust cares passionately about wildlife and wild places – we're here to put wildlife back into our land and seascapes to make Cumbria a wilder county with more space for nature. We restore and connect wild places, work with nature to tackle the climate emergency and support people to take local action for wildlife.

We wouldn't be able to do what we do without the dedication and support from our community of 600 active volunteers, over 15000 members and supporters.

What is a Osprey Watch Volunteer?

Ospreys have been breeding at Foulshaw Moss nature reserve, since 2013. Timeline is typically the adult ospreys return at beginning of April. Eggs are seen towards the end of April. Chicks hatch end May. Chicks fledge and leave the nest end of August.

We are looking for volunteers who will be the first point of contact for all visitors to our Foulshaw Moss nature reserve osprey observation hide.

You will join a friendly and dedicated team of volunteers and staff, meeting and greeting visitors, providing information on the site's wildlife and bog habitats, promoting the work of the Cumbria Wildlife Trust in general and the Foulshaw Moss nature reserve, in particular.

What's in it for you?

- Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team at Cumbria Wildlife Trust
- Health and wellbeing benefits by making new friends, making a difference and having fun
- Learning new practical conservation and people skills from our experienced team of reserve officers. These skills will help your future career/learning opportunities.
- Opportunity to increase your knowledge of Osprey species and bog habitats, found at Foulshaw Moss.
- Opportunity to help CWT raise awareness of wildlife and conservation

What's Involved?

- The role involves sitting under the shelter on the observation platform in all weathers.
- Greeting reserve visitors, providing leaflets and advice to ensure they enjoy their visit
- Helping and facilitating of visitors' bird and wildlife watching and discussing their sightings. Share the history of Foulshaw Moss site and all about this protected species.
- Ability to work independently or as part of a small dedicated team.
- Encouraging visitors to support Cumbria Wildlife Trust by becoming members and volunteers

Who would suit this role?

This role will suit anyone interested in volunteering with Cumbria Wildlife Trust, who loves wildlife. You do not need to be a bird expert to be good at this role - just enjoy meeting and chatting to people.

It would especially suit those who:

- Are reliable and committed to this role.
- Have good communication skills and can greet visitors in a cheerful manner.
- Are polite and helpful wherever necessary, when in contact with public and acting as representatives of the wildlife Trust.
- Have a natural enthusiasm for wildlife of Foulshaw Moss and want to help visitors get the most from their visit.
- Enjoy working in an outdoor environment (in all weathers!).
 - Volunteer role suitable for wheelchair users.

Extra information

Your place	Foulshaw Moss Nature Reserve, Off the A590, Near Witherslack. Cumbria LA11 6SN. what3words ///herb.scaffold.sizing
Time commitment	We are looking for volunteer helpers who would be able to come down once a week for a half or full day
Volunteer Coordinator	Ruth Alcroft, volunteering@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk
Staff Contact (if different)	Keziah Taylor keziaht@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk
Training/Resources	Volunteer handbook and Trust induction. Health and safety training will be mandatory and provided for you. Volunteers are able to receive travel expenses of 0.45p per mile agreed in advanced with their staff contact.
Other Requirements	A site induction and orientation will be provided.

This role is purely voluntary and this arrangement is not meant to be a legally binding one
or an employment contract