

Job Title	Ecologist
Department	Capital Delivery (Pipelines)
Reports to	Capital Delivery and Pipelines Manager
Grade	Grade 5
Purpose & Overview	<p>To provide in-house ecological expertise to support WWU's Capital Delivery Team, ensuring capital projects are planned and delivered in compliance with ecological legislation, best practice, and environmental commitments.</p> <p>The post-holder will work closely with project managers, designers, and contractors to identify ecological constraints early, advise on risk and mitigation, and support efficient project delivery by reducing delays associated with ecological issues. The role will also contribute to biodiversity enhancement, Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) delivery, and the embedding of consistent, proportionate ecological controls across the capital programme.</p>
Key Accountabilities	<p>General Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote a pragmatic, risk-based approach to ecological compliance that supports efficient delivery while meeting legal and environmental obligations and aligns with the organisation's Environmental Action Plan. • Maintain accurate and auditable records of surveys undertaken, advice provided, and project support delivered. • Contribute to the continual improvement of internal ecological processes, guidance, and templates, working closely with internal operational and corporate environment teams to ensure consistency and alignment. <p>Project Support and Advisory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide ecological input to capital projects throughout design, planning, and delivery stages. • Support works including vegetation clearance and tree felling near critical infrastructure, and operations in proximity to rivers, watercourses, and other water bodies. • Advise project teams on ecological constraints, risks, mitigation requirements, and programme implications. • Support project planning and sequencing to minimise delays arising from ecological considerations. <p>Surveys and Fieldwork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan, undertake, and/or coordinate ecological surveys on straightforward sites in line with current best practice and guidance. • Carry out extended habitat surveys for Preliminary Ecological Appraisals (PEAs). • Undertake protected species surveys (e.g. bats, badgers, reptiles, great crested newts, hazel dormice), subject to skills, experience, and licence holdings. <p>Reporting and Technical Outputs</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare clear, proportionate, and well-balanced ecological outputs, including PEAs, Ecological Constraints Plans (ECPs), method statements, and RAMS. • Provide ecological input into planning applications and support the discharge of ecological planning conditions. <p>Biodiversity, Compliance, and Site Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support biodiversity initiatives, including mapping, ecological data analysis, and BNG calculations. • Assist in the design of ecological enhancements, BNG proposals, and habitat creation or enhancement measures. • Contribute to the production and implementation of habitat management plans associated with capital projects. • Provide Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) support and assist with permit or licence applications as required. <p>Stakeholder Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise effectively with contractors to ensure ecological requirements are understood and implemented on site. • Engage with local planning authorities, statutory consultees (e.g. Environment Agency, Natural England, NRW), and other regulators as appropriate. • Work collaboratively with internal stakeholders across capital delivery, environment, planning, and compliance teams
<p>Technical Know-How & Skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound knowledge of UK wildlife legislation and current best-practice survey, mitigation, and enhancement guidance. • Good understanding of PEA and BNG workflows, with the ability to undertake assessments with limited supervision on standard sites. • Experience providing ecological support to infrastructure or capital delivery projects. • Experience working as an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW), providing on-site ecological advice and compliance oversight. • Competence in technical ecological reporting, including PEAs, BNG assessments. • GIS skills desirable, particularly for mapping, data analysis, and BNG calculations.
<p>Qualifications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSc or MSc (or equivalent) in Ecology, Environmental Science, or a related discipline. • Membership of CIEEM or actively working towards professional membership. • Full UK driving licence with access to a vehicle.
<p>Job Dimensions</p>	<p>Net Zero & Sustainability Team</p>