

Job Description

Director for Nature Finance

Main Location: Edinburgh



Job Overview

Fisheries Management Scotland is seeking to appoint a dynamic and ambitious individual to a new and exciting role driving financial investment into Scotland's natural capital.

The post holder will support Scotland's District Salmon Fishery Boards and Rivers and Fisheries Trusts to attract investment into projects that deliver biodiversity improvement for Scotland's rivers. The successful individual will work with the private sector, partner NGOs, the Scottish Government, NatureScot and SEPA to support river managers to design and deliver innovative green finance schemes within river catchments in Scotland.

Reports To

Chief Executive Officer of Fisheries Management Scotland.

Background

Fisheries Management Scotland's members manage rivers at a catchment-scale and are ideally placed to deliver large-scale nature-restoration projects. Many such projects are already well-established. However, it is also clear that the resources to deliver this work, and particularly the expertise to access developing processes for private finance, are not evenly distributed across the fisheries management community, and are currently insufficient to meet the climate and biodiversity crises. Understanding how such projects in river catchments can be designed and developed, presented to potential investors, regulated and delivered, are all areas that need to be further developed if this vital work is to be realised at scale.

We want to support river managers to attract investment into projects that deliver biodiversity improvement for Scotland's rivers and catchments, in line with the Scottish Government Interim Principles for Responsible Investment in Natural Capital. Close coordination and collaboration with relevant staff across the UK Rivers Trust network will be critical, as will the development of a positive and productive working relationship with officials from relevant Scottish Government Departments and Agencies. This new post is part-funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and the Missing Salmon Alliance, with support from The Rivers Trust.

Supporting local projects

- Work with Fisheries Management Scotland members to identify and deliver opportunities for maximising private investment into natural capital;
- Develop clearly-defined nature-based solutions that can be sold to the private sector in the realm of paid ecosystem services and consultancy related to catchment and river management;

- Identify possible metrics for biodiversity improvement and restoration in river catchments;
- Explore additional funding mechanisms for river catchment restoration that can be accessed by smaller fisheries trusts and DSFBs.

Communication and Engagement

- Establish and maintain a strong working relationship with Fisheries Management Scotland members and key individuals within them;
- Establish and maintain close coordination and collaboration with relevant staff across the UK Rivers Trust network and other members of the Missing Salmon Alliance;
- Establish and maintain a strong working relationship, and regular liaison with relevant officials in the Scottish Government, NatureScot and SEPA;
- Support the Fisheries Management Scotland Chief Executive in advocacy work through national stakeholder fora and influencing any relevant legislation in the Scottish Parliament.

Support and Guidance

- Providing standardised information and advice to Fisheries Management Scotland members about green finance initiatives, and associated project management, insurance and governance standards.

Qualifications

- A Bachelor's degree in a relevant subject.

Knowledge, skills, experience and personal qualities sought in the ideal candidate

- Commercial acumen and entrepreneurial drive
- Excellent project management skills
- Highly developed communication and collaborative skills and experience in building relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders
- Experience of commercial contract delivery
- Experience of submitting funding bids
- Knowledge of a wide range of stakeholders, across public, private, charitable and academic sectors
- Understanding of policy development and advocacy would be an advantage
- A strong commitment to restoration of the water environment and a good understanding of environmental issues including water stewardship
- Knowledge of environmental NGOs, government agencies and consultancies
- Willingness to travel across Scotland
- A full driving licence

Working Pattern

This is a full-time, permanent vacancy. Home/hybrid working will be supported, and applications from people wishing to work an alternative working pattern will be considered.