Forth Fisheries Development Officer

A new post has been created working for the Forth District Salmon Fishery Board (Forth DSFB) as part of an innovative Local Management pilot project with Crown Estate Scotland (CES) to manage the Scottish Crown Estate fisheries within the Forth Area. The post will initially be a fixed term appointment until end August2022.

The Fisheries Development Officer will work with existing tenants to support them in developing and managing their fisheries which are found on the Rivers Almond, Avon, Leven, Devon and Teith rivers. CES is the default owner of salmon fishing rights in Scotland and where these have not previously been granted to others they have the potential to be opened for fishing. A review of the existing ownership including those with claims, using GIS interfaces and working closely with the team at CES, will be required. The Fisheries Development Officer will also work closely with land managers and other stakeholders to develop these vacant fisheries and find tenants – including the setting of rents, tenure, access agreements etc, in collaboration with CES. This latter work will include all river fishing areas currently forming part of the Scottish Crown Estate where a tenant is not currently in place and will include all rivers across the area.

This is a unique opportunity to be at the forefront of fisheries management and see real change in the way the fisheries are managed and developed.

We are looking for someone who has the commitment and drive to take this pilot project forward, within the support structure of a dynamic team.

The Role
We are seeking a motivated individual with rural land /fisheries management experience who is looking to progress their career.

The role will be hosted by the Forth Rivers Trust and would be based at the Forth Rivers Trust's office at Lothianburn just off the Edinburgh bypass, however will also take the successful applicant throughout the area covered by Forth river catchments. The successful applicant will be seconded to the Forth DSFB to deliver the agreement between the ForthDSFB and CES. Home working will be supported during the COVID-19 restrictions and flexibility for this to continue throughout the contract may be available, however the DSFB believe the team environment of the Trust staff to support this post as a key element of remaining connected and wish to promote this by enabling office space within the Trust office.

As the Forth Fisheries Development Officer you will manage all aspects of the pilot project Agreement with CES including admin duties (collection of rents, annual reporting, and client liaison) as well as project management, reporting, communications and monitoring & evaluation. You will also deliver development of business plans and practical advice in relation to Scottish Crown Estate salmon fishing rights in the district, working with tenants and other stakeholders including to:

- Develop, build and maintain client, tenant and stakeholder relationships;
- Produce high quality reporting and management systems;
- Manage budgets and produce forecasts;
- Develop business plans for both the overall management and individual fisheries; and
- Work within a highly motivated team finding sustainable solutions to often complex problems.

Essential Skills & Experience

- Educated to graduate degree level or higher in a relevant subject
- Experience in land or fisheries management (or other relevant qualification eg RICS)
- Knowledge of leasing agreements, environmental legislation and licensing requirements
- Experience of working in a multi stakeholder environment
- Experience of providing funding advice is desirable
- Full clean driving licence
- GIS experience
- Basic Disclosure certificate

Personal Qualities

We are looking for an enthusiastic and confident individual with good interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to fit into our friendly, lively and ambitious team.

Your normal hours of work are 40 hours per week over 5 days. Office hours are 09.00 am to 17:30 pm, however the nature of the work of this organisation will require you to work flexibly, to work outdoors, outside regular office hours or away from your home office when reasonably required.

Salary & Benefits

Offering £24,000.00 (plus contributary pension and other benefits, including Personalised Training Personal Development Plans). The Forth DSFB is committed to assisting the professional and personal development of our team.

Applications should be made via email clerk@forthdsfb.org with CV (including two references) and covering letter by end of Sunday 17th January 2021.

Interviews will take place on either Friday 22nd or Tuesday 26th January 2021

If you would like further information regarding this opportunity or have any questions feel free to contact the Clerk to the Board, Alison Baker either by email clerk@forthdsfb.org or on 0131 378 7174

No agencies please.