

JOB DESCRIPTION

1. IDENTIFICATION OF JOB

JOB TITLE	:	Seagrass Project Officer
FUNCTION	:	Conservation-Marine
RESPONSIBLE TO	:	Marine Conservation Officer
RESPONSIBLE FOR	:	Volunteers

2. OVERALL PURPOSE OF JOB

The Seagrass Project Officer is responsible for the delivery of the Trust's Seeding Change Together Seagrass project funded by Seasalt. There is one year left of this current 3 year project which we have ambition to continue (TBC) for further years. The aim is to continue to develop a low-cost solution for restoring intertidal seagrass in the Fal estuary, and to expand the restoration to the Helford estuary with first stages of planting scheduled for autumn 2024.

3. MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Deliver seagrass restoration project for CWT
2. Carrying out surveys – both in person and commissioning aerial surveys of seagrass bed
3. Monitoring water quality, including nutrients, temperature salinity and turbidity
4. Liaising with EA, landowners, Harbour authorities, Council, Port Health and University's to bring together as much information as possible on water quality and seagrass beds in the Ardevora site.
5. Devising trials that will investigate all practical approaches to propagation and will establish the optimum method to use at Ardevora and other sites
6. Gain permission from relevant authorities to carry out the trial
7. Procure the equipment needed.
8. Carry out seed collection and storage
9. Carry out core transplants
10. Plant out seed bags (following seed maturation)
11. Monitor growth and success of the restoration.
12. Carry out any other research – carbon storage, substrate makeup tests, as needed
13. Scale up project in subsequent years including gaining permissions to expand into areas where seagrass was previously lost.

14. Running events and public speaking to varying audiences e.g. public outreach and education talks and academic talks.
15. Managing and training volunteers and students (undergraduate and postgraduate)
16. Managing and assessing health and safety risks.

4. ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Degree in marine biology, or environmental studies, or plant science
- Experienced at delivering practical projects as well as scientific analysis
- Good people and communication skills, including presentation and volunteer engagement
- Good understanding of estuarine ecology and seagrass biology
- Conscientious, hardworking, trustworthy and good communicator
- Full clean driving license

5. DESIRABLE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Experience in running seagrass restoration projects
- Water quality analysis experience
- Horticultural trial experience
- Ability to analyse success of planting trials,
- GIS experience – creating maps / summarizing extents of current beds, trial areas and success
- Outdoor first aid / water safety qualification
- Boat handling experience / qualifications
- Public speaking experience
- Experience working with volunteers