



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Seasonal Field Assistant



Position: Seasonal Field Assistant
Location: The Burren region in Co. Clare and Co. Galway

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a fixed-term, 4-month contract position as a Seasonal Field Assistant with High Nature Value Services (HNVS) Ltd. HNVS consists of a small team of dedicated people responsible for administering the Burren Programme.

Programme Description

Arising from the success of the BurrenLIFE Project (2004-2010) and the Burren Farming for Conservation Programme (2010-2015), the Burren Programme (BP) commenced in 2016 to continue, and expand, help to farmers in their vital role of managing and conserving the Burren's rich ecological, archaeological, geological and cultural heritage. This Locally Led Agri-Environment Scheme (LLAES) under the Rural Development Programme (RDP) is co-financed by the EU and DAFM, with support from NPWS. The Burren Team is based in Carron and led by Programme Manager, Dr Brendan Dunford.

The BP, like its predecessors, is innovative in that it promotes farming for conservation through result and reward based initiatives. Under Intervention 1 (I-1), there are scaled payment rates for species rich pastures where fields with higher scores receive higher payments. Farmers are also funded for carrying out site enhancement works under Intervention 2 (I-2) that can help farmers manage their farm and contribute to increasing their I-1 scores. I-2 tasks, nominated by the farmer, include removing immature scrub from species-rich pastures, repairing walls, installing gates, improving water supplies and enhancing access.

Further information on the Burren Programme is available at; www.burrenprogramme.com.

Job Description

The successful candidate's main role will be to assist with fieldwork, carrying out Intervention 1 scoring and site checks of planned work under Intervention 2. He/she will also be required to maintain records, enter data, and undertake any other reasonable tasks requested of them. He/she will work under the supervision of the Programme Manager, Brendan Dunford, and work closely with several members of the Programme team to support the delivery of the Burren Programme. The Carron office will provide a base but most of this work will be carried out at various locations across the Burren.

Essential criteria:

- A suitable third-level qualification in an agriculture, environmental science and/or ecology-related discipline.
- Competent in using Excel.
- Full valid Irish/EU driving licence.
- Have use of a vehicle for the full duration of the contract.
- Ability to carry out fieldwork on difficult terrain and in hard-to-reach places.
- Ability to work independently and with others.
- Fluent in spoken and written English.
- Eligible to work in Ireland.

Desirable criteria:

- Practical knowledge of the Burren.
- Agricultural knowledge and experience.
- Ability to identify plants and/or other taxonomic groups.
- GIS skills.

Salary: €2,600 per month (€31,200 annual equivalent). **Start date:** 1st-15th May 2017.

Informal enquiries about this post can be made to Bryony Williams: bryony@burrenlife.com.

To Apply:

Applicants should send a covering letter, detailed CV and the names and contact numbers of at least two referees via e-mail (in Word or PDF format only) to: bryony@burrenlife.com.

Applicants must put **Seasonal Field Assistant** in the subject line of e-mail applications.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 5pm on Monday 3rd April 2017.

Please note that late applications will not be accepted.

Interviews are planned to be held Monday-Wednesday 10-12th April 2017.

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified, and details of those deemed suitable for appointment will be retained on an internal panel for consideration should similar posts arise in the future.