



**Spey
Catchment
Initiative**



RIVERWOODS



Post Title:	Spey Tributaries Project Officer
Reporting to:	Spey Catchment Initiative CEO
Location:	The Spey Catchment Initiative, The Town House, The Square, Grantown-on-Spey PH26 3HF. Option to work from home/hybrid working. Field work in the Spey catchment will be necessary.
Status:	Full Time until September 2028, with potential to become permanent.
Salary:	Circa £30,000 - £38,000 dependent upon experience.

Job Purpose

The employer is the Spey Catchment Initiative (SCIO), a highly successful public/private partnership organisation which was established in 2010 and became a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation in December 2022.

The Spey Catchment Initiative (SCI) is a key partner in the Scottish Wildlife Trust Riverwoods: A Blueprint for River Woodland Recovery (RBRWR) Project (<https://www.riverwoods.org.uk/streams/blueprint/>), funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF).

The key purpose of the Riverwoods initiative is to create a network of riparian woodland and healthy river systems throughout Scotland, which will deliver a range of benefits including flood protection, improved water quality and improvements for salmon fisheries, as well as helping to tackle the twin challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss.

This post is partly funded through Riverwoods and will be central to delivering SCI's contribution to its programme.

The main role of the Spey Tributaries Project Officer is to scope, plan and co-ordinate delivery of significant, landscape-scale projects within the Spey catchment. The projects will aim to help make the Spey catchment more resilient to the climate and biodiversity crises which are putting its habitats and wildlife under increasing pressure and will be focussed mainly on riparian woodland and river restoration. Developing effective liaison, communication and partnerships with land managers, agencies, private sector advisors and funders will be central to the role. The role will also include identifying sources of project funding and preparing funding bids.

Responsibilities

1. Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer, you will work closely with the whole SCI team, including experienced project officers, our Operations Manager, and Head of Communications.
2. Develop effective working relationships and ongoing liaison with colleagues, SCI partner organisations and a broad range of other stakeholders, including land managers, agencies and farmers to agree and review priorities for action.

3. Working as part of the SCI team, scope significant landscape-scale projects based upon sub-catchments of the River Spey, including obtaining landowner and other permissions, preparation of detailed plans and project budgets.
4. Ensure that the project(s) demonstrate best practice in nature restoration, including delivering multiple landscape scale benefits and maximising partnership opportunities.
5. Identify appropriate funding mechanisms for project delivery and prepare funding bids.
6. Prepare implementation programmes for delivery of projects, subject to funding approval.
7. Ensure projects are delivered within an agreed timeframe, to the required standard and within budget.
8. Report against specific project requirements
9. .
10. In concert with the SCI's Head of Communications, develop a programme to promote awareness and understanding of each projects and its benefits.
11. Engage local communities and landowners via attendance at public events.
12. .

Knowledge, Experience and Training

Essential

- Excellent communication skills and a team player.
- A positive, pragmatic and realistic 'can-do' attitude, with the aptitude to acquire new skills to develop the role.
- A passion for, helping to address the climate and biodiversity crises.
- The ability to work in partnership with a broad range of stakeholders in the public and private sector, including community engagement, to achieve goals
- Experience of project planning, development and management, ideally in a natural heritage environment and especially with a sound knowledge of woodland and forestry planning.
- Experience of budgeting and financial monitoring, as well as contract management.
- Good understanding of the climate and biodiversity crises, including the impacts on the landscape, natural heritage, water environment, farming and rural development issues.
- Computer and IT literate with a sound working knowledge of standard Microsoft Office software.
- Ability to work on own initiative, but also as part of a team, to deliver according to agreed deadlines.
- Full UK driving licence and own vehicle

Desirable

- Educated to degree level or equivalent qualification and/or experience with and a recognised qualification in natural resource management.
 - Previous experience of working with land managers and farmers.
 - Experience of working within the catchment management sector.
- Experience of preparing funding bids.
- Knowledge and experience of Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
 - A sound understanding of rural development and land management issues within the Cairngorms National Park and the Spey Catchment.