

Fence Monitoring Volunteer Role Description

The Cairngorms Capercaillie Project is where communities in the Cairngorms National Park are working together to help secure a long-term future for capercaillie in the UK.

What are we looking for?

We're looking for 1-2 volunteers to help check fences across the Cairngorms National Park to ensure they don't pose a collision risk to capercaillie. This is an essential part of our work with land managers as part of the Cairngorms Capercaillie Project.

Why is this role needed?

Not all deer fences can be removed, as they are often required to help establish new woodland by keeping deer away from regenerating trees (which will eventually provide more habitat for capercaillie). However, they can be marked to make them more visible to capercaillie.

To date, land managers have already undertaken a huge amount of work to remove and mark fences - but there is still work to do.

We've created a database of fences across the capercaillie range and we need your help to keep it up to date. Your role will involve checking fences to establish their condition and feeding that information back to us via an app designed for this role. We will liaise with landowners for you and arrange access, so all you need to do is check the fence.

Is it for me?

Being a Fence Monitoring Volunteer would be great for someone who ...

- Loves being outdoors in the National Park
- Is keen to gain experience and / or be part of conservation in the National Park by actively helping one of the UK's rarest birds
- Is comfortable working outdoors unsupervised
- Is able to travel to fence locations (we are able to support you with reasonable travel costs)
- Is prepared to access fences on foot, often over rough terrain
- Has sufficient navigational skills to accurately locate and collect data on fences
- Is comfortable using digital maps and submitting data via apps
- Aged 18 years old or over.

How much time would be involved?

We would ask that you are able to give a minimum commitment of 2 days a month (weekdays or weekends), but it would be up to you, in liaison with us, which days you volunteer.

Where and when would it take place?

The fences that need checking are spread across the Cairngorms National Park, but predominantly in Deeside and Badenoch and Strathspey, so there may be a significant variation on where you could be going from one volunteer day to the next.

Who will offer supervision and support?

The Project Coordinator will be your main point of contact. You will also be supported by the Capercaillie Advisory Officer and Capercaillie Advisory Assistant. In the field, you'll be largely working alone checking fences that are most accessible to you.

If your application is successful, we will provide an induction and training programme to help get you started, covering topics including an overview of the National Park, the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and Emergency First Aid training. We will also provide you with uniform to wear when you're out on the ground.

How do I get involved?

If you are interested in this role please complete and return the application form available [here](#) to capercaillie@cairngorms.co.uk by **4 March 2022**

We will review your application, contact the reference provided and be in touch to arrange a convenient time to meet for a chat.

For more information please get in touch at capercaillie@cairngorms.co.uk

