

TERMS OF REFERENCE

**Request for ecological services to support delivery of
Wonderful Wetlands restoration scheme.**



June 2022



This project is funded by the National Parks and Wildlife, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht through the Biodiversity National Action Plan fund for local authorities.

Request for ecological services to support delivery of Wonderful Wetlands restoration scheme.

SUMMARY

Monaghan County Council seeks the services of a suitably qualified and experienced wetlands ecologist deliver an exciting initiative to help landowners and communities protect nature in Monaghan by restoring wetlands.

This project will build on the work of the County Monaghan Wetland Action Plan (2021) which identified wetlands from the Monaghan Wetland Database, on which conservation works to improve biodiversity outcomes and climate mitigation/adaptation can be undertaken, in order to prioritise conservation effort and expenditure.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project runs over three years and will commence in **September 2022** and be completed by **October 2024**. Landowners and communities will access the scheme by submitting expressions of interest applications at various stages throughout the initiative as funding and resources allow. The first tranche of expressions of interest will be sought by the Monaghan Heritage Office in July-August 2022.

It is envisaged that the ecologist will work approximately 50 days per year at 2-3 days per week depending on time of year and adherence to Wildlife Legislation and other provisions.

Tasks for the ecologist

The ecologist will work with landowners and communities to:

- Assess wetland habitats and draw up simple restoration plans for eligible sites.
- Organise training for landowners and communities.
- Provide ecological supervision for restoration works.
- Liaise with stakeholders and communicate with the public.
- Liaise with the NPWS and Monaghan County Council.
- Monitor the sites after restoration.
- Keep records of work and produce annual reports showing results of scheme.
- Actions will be costed as part of each restoration plan and include activities such as re-wetting of drained peatlands, creating additional wetland areas, prevention of nutrient inputs to wetlands, removal of invasive species, awareness raising and capacity building initiatives. Base costs are provided for in the Wetlands Action Plan.
- Collaboration and building partnerships will be a necessary part of the project, both with agencies, nature organisations and other projects that are active in this area.

HOW TO APPLY TO THIS CALL FOR AN ECOLOGIST

Applicants are asked to submit their CV and a summary of three recent initiatives that are of relevance to the delivery of this contract along with a schedule of daily rates applicable to:

shclerkin@monaghancoco.ie by 29th July 2022 at 4pm with Wonderful Wetlands Ecologist in the subject line.

Quotations are sought from qualified wetlands ecologists for a daily rate.

Travel and subsistence will be paid within the county in line with local authority rates and policies.

The successful candidate can work remotely / from home or can be provided with a hot desk in a Monaghan County Council building.

The successful candidate will require their own transport.

Interviews may be held with short-listed applicants.

OTHER MATTERS

This contract will be awarded on the basis of a fixed price contract, and as such, all costs must be submitted as a fixed cost in Euro. No amount over and above the negotiated total contract price amount will be paid to the appointed contractor.

All invoices and supporting documentation must be submitted by email to shclerkin@monaghancoco.ie

The client reserves the right not to accept any of the submissions.

The management team will require a copy of the final draft of the written reports for comment and approval prior to completion.

Monaghan County Council operates under the Freedom of Information Act 1997, and all information held by the County Council may be subject to requests under this Act.

Monaghan County Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender, and no person making a submission will be remunerated for any trouble or expense incurred in preparing a submission.

CONTRACT EVALUATION AND MONITORING

The performance of the appointed service provider will be subject to continuous monitoring, management and review.