

## Lowland Game & Wildlife Research (LGR) Student Placement 2012/2013

### Background

The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust is an independent wildlife conservation charity. Its 60 scientists carry out research into game, associated species and habitats, from its HQ at Fordingbridge, Hampshire and at out-stations throughout the country. The Trust's main areas of interest encompass farmland, moorland, woodland and river management for game and other wildlife.

### The Placement

The LGR undertakes research relating to lowland game and wildlife and the habitats they share, in particular woodlands and farmland. The research is usually applied and based on a fieldwork data collection programme. For example there are currently several ongoing studies exploring the impacts on habitats and wildlife of releasing gamebirds for shooting, on the ecology of released pheasants, on woodland birds and hedgerow birds and wild game management in the lowlands. We cannot at this time be specific about the placement details for the duration but there is a likelihood that you would be involved in some pheasant or red legged partridge radio-tracking work. This involves tagging populations with small radio transmitters, following them and documenting fate, dispersal habitat use etc.

More generally LGR research work involves a combination of surveying wildlife and habitats, monitoring game, laboratory work, data handling, analysis and reporting. Some aspects of the work are extensive, and involve monitoring at many sites across the country, while others are more intensive involving just one or a handful of sites.

Other than the project outlined, there may be the opportunity to get involved in other projects. Overall you should be able to get and hence expand your experience in ecological experimental design, database construction and data analysis, and possibly radio-telemetry work, GPS and GIS. There would be the opportunity to work on more than one project within the LGR or possibly between departments within The GWCT.

The LGR team consists of four friendly staff one of which is based in Suffolk and there may be an opportunity to work over there. We can provide accommodation based at Fordingbridge (or Suffolk), a small remuneration package plus expenses and a vehicle where needed for work. It is necessary that you are a confident driver.

We require a confident able student with an interest in shooting for a placement in 2012 to visit release pens sites and collect data on these for a larger project on releasing.

**Please apply for this placement in January 2012.**

### Contact:

Dr Rufus Sage  
Lowland Gamebird Research Unit  
The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust  
Fordingbridge  
Hampshire  
SP6 1EF  
Direct Line: 01425 651 030  
Email: [rsage@gct.org.uk](mailto:rsage@gct.org.uk)  
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Laurie Campbell



