







Laurie Campbell

Game & Wildlife Scottish Lowland Student Placements 2027/28

Background

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

The Placements

At the Game & Wildlife Scottish Lowlands Department, we conduct vital research to promote the conservation of arable farmland wildlife and support sustainable agriculture. Our work is applied and data-driven, focusing on hands-on field research. We currently have two placement openings.

Our work spans multiple sites across Fife, the Lothians, and occasionally further north in Perthshire and Angus. Primarily field-based research, the placement includes surveys of farmland bird populations, gamebird release studies, and various invertebrate and habitat monitoring projects. We offer full training in all necessary techniques.

You'll be joining a welcoming, dynamic team and will be based near our Scottish headquarters at Hopetoun House. The placement includes private accommodation (a two-bedroom house with bills covered), a stipend of £131 per week to cover basic necessities, and access to a 4x4 vehicle for fieldwork.

We can accommodate placement students for up to a year, or shorter periods as necessary. The successful candidates will be involved mostly with field work, but will also gain experience with desk-based (literature) research, data handling and data analysis. Overall, this is a fantastic opportunity to expand your experience in ecological experimental design, database construction and data analysis, field work techniques including wildlife surveys, and if desirable, software such as ArcGIS Pro, R, and MARK.

We would endeavour to match your interests to the project as far as possible. There will also be the opportunity to help more generally across the Trust and assist with other departments. We are also looking to expand our body of research into exciting new avenues.

We require confident and able students with a keen interest in ecology and in working outdoors for a placement in 2027/28 season. Some data handling and analysis skills might be useful as would bird ID skills, but these are not essential as full training will be provided.

The closing date for applications is January 10th, 2027, with interviews held between the 18th of January and 29th of January 2027.

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