# Senior Biologist

# Beauly District Fishery Board

We have an exciting opportunity for a new Senior Biologist with the Beauly District Fishery Board, Beauly, Inverness-shire.

The Beauly District Salmon Fishery Board is a statutory body responsible for the protection and enhancement of salmon and sea trout stocks in the Beauly catchment, including the River Glass, River Farrar and River Beauly.

The Senior Biologist will be responsible for assisting and advising the Board in all aspects of the protection, monitoring and management of wild salmon and sea trout populations and their habitats in the rivers, lochs and coastal areas of the Beauly district. They will also be expected to undertake fisheries protection duties when required and hold or obtain a river bailiff warrant qualification.

The Senior Biologist will report to the District Fishery Board Chairman, liaising with the Clerk to the Board as required. They will be assisted in their duties by and be responsible for day to day management of a river fisheries officer / bailiff and other seasonal or voluntary staff as may be required.

The role will be primarily based outdoors, often in or around water, in all weather conditions, although based from an office near Beauly. The work can be physically demanding and may be carried out in hostile situations or during un-social hours, particularly when investigating or preventing illegal fishing activities. The Senior Biologist will be an excellent communicator, liaising with a range of external bodies, including SSE Hydro Generation. They will demonstrate resilience, self-motivation and genuine enthusiasm for the role.

Further details can be found in the Job Description. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applications by curriculum vitae and covering letter should be submitted to Clerk to the Board at alastair.campbell@bidwells.co.uk, or by post to: - Clerk to Beauly District Fishery Board, Bidwells, Elm House, Cradlehall, Business Park, Inverness IV2 5GH. Applications should be clearly marked ‘Senior Biologist, Beauly DSFB’.

Interviews are planned for late March and the successful candidate will be expected to start work from April / May or later by agreement. Please contact Alastair Campbell on 01463 796050 for further information.

## Description of Role

The Senior Biologist is responsible for implementation of an agreed management plan for the protection, monitoring and management of wild salmon and sea trout populations and their habitats in the rivers, lochs and coastal areas of the Beauly district. This involves both office-based and outdoor work, often in or around water, in all weather conditions.

The work can be physically demanding and may be carried out in hostile situations, particularly when investigating or preventing illegal fishing activities. The Senior Biologist will be an excellent communicator, liaising with a range of external bodies (e.g. Police, SSE, angling clubs, councils, academic institutions, fishery trusts, ghillies and fishery owners). They will demonstrate resilience, self-motivation and genuine enthusiasm for the role.

**Responsibilities & duties**

The general duties of a Senior Biologist are:

1. Propose revisions to, update and thereafter implement the Fisheries Management Plan for the Beauly District, in line with relevant statutory requirements and guidance.
2. Assist the District Fishery Board and other partners to gain a detailed and up to date understanding of the status of salmon and sea trout populations within the district;
3. Assist in the delivery of targeted fisheries management activities to maximise the natural production of salmon and sea trout in the Beauly district, including contract work where appropriate;
4. Supervise and manage a fisheries officer and other seasonal or voluntary staff
5. Regular reporting to the Board Chairman and liaison with the Clerk to the Board.
6. Developing and maintaining close working relationships with key external organisations, including SSE Hydro Generation; SEPA; FMS and neighbouring DSFBs.
7. Assist in the protection of salmon and sea trout stocks through the enforcement of current salmon fisheries legislation;

**Skills and Background**

The post holder is required to have a minimum of two years’ experience of working in a similar field, demonstrate practical field skills and ideally have a qualification in a fisheries or environmental related subject. The post holder will be a good communicator, able to work alone, often in remote locations, show evidence of self-motivation and have a positive proactive attitude.

The following qualities are essential:

• Qualification to degree level or equivalent in a biological or environmental subject; • An understanding of the riverine environment, countryside management and catchment pressures; • Demonstrable accreditation and experience in habitat and electrofishing surveys; • Experience in conducting robust field surveys; • Experience in report writing; • Competency in Microsoft Office packages; • A full UK driving licence, ideally with trailer towing endorsement; and • An ability and willingness to deal with members of the public and liaise with stakeholders.

The following qualities are desirable:

• Demonstrable practical enforcement skills; • Successful completion of the Institute of Fisheries Management (Scotland) Water Bailiff Course; • Chainsaw certificate with relevant experience; • P6 AW spraying certificate