

River Guardian - Mink

The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) needs Volunteer Rother River Guardians to undertake practical work across the catchment of the River Rother.

As part of a project to improve water quality and biodiversity of the River Rother catchment, Volunteer River Guardians can choose from a suite of volunteering options with the South Downs National Park Authority.

As a Mink River Guardian you will learn practical skills in managing the mink rafts located at a number of sites on the River Rother as well as the safe and appropriate use of equipment, tools and their maintenance. Opportunities are available as part of an area-based programme delivered by staff, volunteer rangers and partners across a variety of sites and habitats.

All volunteers are expected to adhere to South Downs National Park Authority volunteer policies and procedures. Our volunteers play an important role in fulfilling our purposes and volunteers are key ambassadors for the work of the Authority.

There are also Rother River Guardian opportunities for water quality and Riverfly monitoring with or project partners the Arun and Rother Rivers Trust [Arun & Rother Rivers Trust – Part of a National Network of Rivers Trusts. \(arrrt.org.uk\)](http://arun-rother-rivers-trust.org.uk)

Compulsory Training (provided):

Water Safety Training
Lone Working
INNS Mapper
iNaturalist

Additional Training (if appropriate)

First Aid
Dispatch Training

Equipment Provided:

Rafts with traps
Remoti mink alarm
Ranging Pole / throw line / life jackets (where necessary)
Waders
Club hammer / rope / stakes
Multi tool
Bags and labels
Dispatch equipment (where necessary)

Transport: The ability to access a designated site either through public transport or in your own vehicle will be necessary in this role.

Responsible to:

Volunteer Activity Coordinator:
Project coordinator, Assistant Ranger, Ranger or Lead Ranger

Preferred/Est. Hours:

Flexibility is needed for this role. There will be initial training and set up days. Between February and September when traps are set call out will be necessary when alarms go off, as part of a team.



Role Description:

- Site visits to check a number of mink rafts located on the River Rother
- Maintenance and repairs of mink rafts as required
- Keep records for the mink raft site visits and maintenance
- Set a trap, check and dispatch mink as required and if happy to do so
- Alternatively, work with trained Rangers and/or volunteers to organise the setting of a trap, checks and dispatching of mink, as required
- Annual review of location and number of the mink rafts, materials and maintenance required
- Act as an ambassador for the SDNPA

Key Skills:

- Comfortable with undertaking lone working.
- Ability to communicate well and treat everyone with dignity and respect, including other volunteers, SDNPA staff and members of the public.
- Ability to adhere to all SDNPA volunteering policies and procedures.
- Ability to adhere to Health & Safety policies and procedures
- Specialist skills and experience relating to tasks are welcomed

Key qualities: Friendly, reliable and self-sufficient, willing to accept direction/guidance

