



## Land Conservation Ecologist Contractors Role Description and Application Procedures

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### ***Position Summary***

The Nature Trust is Nova Scotia's leading private land conservation charity, and the only land trust focused exclusively on protecting the province's outstanding natural areas. Since 1994, the Nature Trust has worked together with landowners to protect the places Nova Scotians love. To date more than 5,500 acres of conservation lands, from unspoiled lakeshores and forests, to important wildlife habitat for endangered species have been protected, forever.

The Nature Trust is building a team of trained field contractors to provide expert knowledge and support for our conservation programme and to supplement our staff and volunteer teams on an as-needed basis. In particular this position supports the Securement and Stewardship Programs through onsite inspections, ecological assessments and surveys of potential and secured conservation lands throughout Nova Scotia, property monitoring and management planning.

### ***Skills and Qualifications***

- Masters degree in ecology (or related field) or at least 5 years relevant field experience, ideally in a Nova Scotia context.
- Strong field biology/ecology skills and knowledge of Nova Scotian natural landscapes, ecosystems, habitats and species, including species at risk and invasive species
- Experience conducting ecological site assessments (e.g. assessing and documenting ecological values of land and habitat quality, mapping habitats and natural communities, developing species lists etc.)
- Experience conducting baseline survey and environmental assessments (environmental and safety liabilities and risks, vulnerabilities, restoration activities)
- Mapping, documenting (using GPS) and reporting in a clear, precise manner
- Experience and effectiveness working in the field (remote properties, challenging access, independent backcountry navigation using GPS)
- Strong report-writing skills

### ***Other Desired Assets***

- Working knowledge of GIS
- Good organizational skills

### ***Role Description (contract work may include any of the following)***

- Conducting biological surveys and ecological assessments of potential and protected conservation lands
- Identifying significant ecosystems, habitats and species on potential and protected conservation lands
- Identifying potential and existing threats, environmental liabilities and/or hazards on potential conservation lands
- Assisting with or completing Stewardship/Management Plans for conservation lands
- Assisting with or completing Baseline Documentation Reports for potential conservation lands
- Conducting annual property monitoring on NSNT conservation lands

***Time Commitment***

The time commitment is flexible and on an 'as-needed basis'. Time required will be highly dependent on location of properties, availability and the current needs of the Nature Trust. Work can be completed outside regular working hours if desired.

***Application***

Application deadline: **Applications ongoing**

Please send a cover letter, resume and list of at least 3 references to:

*Dennis Garratt*

*Conservation Manager*

*Nova Scotia Nature Trust*

*PO Box 2202 Halifax, NS B3J 3C4*

Or fax to (902) 429-5263.

Please send hard copy by mail or fax only. No email applications please.

Thank you so much for your interest in the Nature Trust and in doing contract field work with us. Due to anticipated number of applications, only successful applicants will be contacted.