

Tees Invasive Species Project (TISP)

TITLE: Environmental Education Officer

AREA: Tees Catchment

STATUS: Full Time FTC: Five-year Delivery Phase July 2026 – June 2031

SALARY: £28,000 - £34,000 depending on experience.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Tees Catchment is home to a rich natural, cultural and industrial heritage, stretching from the source of the River Tees at Cross Fell to the North Sea. However, this incredible landscape faces increasing pressures from invasive non-native species (INNS), which threaten native biodiversity, damage habitats and impact how communities and visitors enjoy the natural environment. The Tees Invasive Species Project (TISP) is a five-year, National Lottery Heritage Fund supported project taking a catchment-scale approach to tackling invasive species across the River Tees. Through a combination of conservation action, research, community involvement and education, the project aims to protect and restore habitats whilst inspiring people to become active custodians of their local environment.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and creative Education Officer to join our team and help shape the education programme for TISP. This is an exciting opportunity to develop and deliver engaging environmental learning opportunities across the Tees Catchment, working with schools, communities and partners to help people understand, value and protect their local rivers and landscapes.

The successful candidate will play a key role in developing resources and delivering inspiring sessions both in classrooms and outdoors, including river-based learning, biodiversity activities, citizen science and invasive species awareness. There will also be opportunities to engage the wider community through initiatives such as the Riverfly Partnership.

The Tees Rivers Trust already has experience of delivering engaging environmental education through its **RiverLAB** programme, providing hands-on opportunities for people to explore, understand and connect with their local rivers. The Education Officer will have the opportunity to build on this existing work, helping to develop, shape and expand our approach to environmental education across the Tees Catchment. You can find out more about our previous RiverLAB work on our website: [RiverLAB](#).

This role offers the opportunity to build something meaningful from the beginning of a major conservation project, helping create a lasting legacy for future generations across the Tees Catchment.

ROLE OVERVIEW

The Education Officer will be responsible for developing and delivering high-quality environmental education sessions for schools, colleges and community groups across the Tees Catchment.

The role will focus on inspiring people about biodiversity, invasive species, rivers and blue spaces, encouraging environmental stewardship and supporting communities to take positive action for nature.

Key Responsibilities

- Develop and deliver engaging educational sessions both in classrooms and outdoor settings, aligned with curriculum requirements and environmental learning objectives.
- Work with schools, colleges and community groups to establish strong relationships and create long-term engagement opportunities.
- Develop interactive educational resources including lesson plans, activity packs and digital materials.
- Deliver outdoor learning experiences including river activities, biodiversity surveys, citizen science projects and conservation activities.
- Develop and deliver workshops and presentations for educators, volunteers, community groups and project partners.
- Support public engagement activities, events and awareness campaigns.
- Maintain and develop educational content across project webpages and digital platforms.
- Contribute to project monitoring, evaluation and reporting.
- Ensure all activities follow safeguarding, health and safety and inclusivity best practice.
- Support wider Tees Rivers Trust activities where appropriate.

ABOUT YOU

We are looking for someone who is passionate about connecting people with nature and inspiring the next generation of environmental champions.

You may come from an education, environmental, community engagement or outdoor learning background. Most importantly, you will be enthusiastic, organised and confident working with a wide range of audiences.

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
• Previous work experience within educational institutions or experience with community engagement	☒	
• Experience of initiating links with, and working with, a wide variety of groups and organisations, including local authorities, community groups and education organisations	☒	
• Experience with outdoor learning such as forest or river schools		☒
• Carry out presentations to community groups, river user groups and other vested interest groups		☒
• The ability to manage a budget and report back to the project manager	☒	
• DBS checked or willing to undergo a DBS check	☒	
• Ability to work on your own initiative	☒	
• Ability to work as a team	☒	
• Excellent communication and organisational skills.	☒	
• IT Skills such as Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook	☒	
• Experience using website software including Wix		☒
• A valid full driving licence is also required and access to own vehicle (must be covered under business insurance)	☒	

ABOUT TEES RIVERS TRUST

The Tees Rivers Trust is an environmental charity established in 2008, dedicated to protecting, restoring and enhancing the River Tees and its tributaries.

Working across the entire catchment, from Cross Fell to the North Sea, we are the only conservation organisation focused solely on improving the health and resilience of the River Tees catchment.

Our work takes a whole-catchment approach, combining practical conservation, research, education and partnership working to improve habitats, biodiversity and water quality. Our projects cover river and estuary restoration, natural flood management, sustainable land management, fisheries, habitat improvements and invasive species management.

We work closely with communities, landowners, organisations and volunteers to deliver long-term positive change for both people and wildlife.

The Tees Rivers Trust also coordinates the Your Tees Catchment Partnership, bringing together organisations from across the catchment to work collaboratively towards shared goals for the River Tees and its wider environment.

WHAT WE OFFER

- The opportunity to work within a small, passionate team delivering meaningful environmental change.
- Competitive salary.
- 9% employer pension contribution after successful completion of a six-month probation period.
- Access to health care scheme after successful completion of a six-month probation period.
- Cycle to work scheme.
- 25 days annual leave plus bank holidays.

WANT TO APPLY?

If you're excited about connecting people with nature, inspiring communities and helping shape the future of environmental education across the Tees Catchment, we'd love to hear from you.

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter outlining your experience and why you are interested in the role to Chloe Lawrence at chloe@teesrivertrust.org.

Closing date for applications: 30th October 2026

If you're interested in the role but aren't sure whether you meet every requirement, we'd still love to hear from you. We know that great candidates come from a variety of backgrounds, and we're happy to have an informal conversation about the role, the project and whether it could be the right fit for you.

Interviews will likely commence on W/C 23rd November 2026.