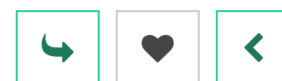


1 2 3

Ecologist

Ecologists study the relationship between plants, animals, and the environment.



What you'll do

You'll usually specialise in a particular type of environment, like marine or coastal areas.

You could study a specific animal or plant species.

Your day-to-day duties could include:

- carrying out fieldwork - surveying and recording information on plants, animals, environmental conditions and biodiversity
- researching the impact of human activity, like housing and intensive agriculture, on the environment
- building computer models to predict the effects of development or climate change
- monitoring pollution
- managing wildlife conservation areas, woodland and meadows

You might also help assess planning proposals and make recommendations on sustainable land use for local authorities, government departments and companies.

Record relevant activities you've already done on the [Activities tool](#) >

Working hours and environment

You'll work in the field, in an office and in a lab.

When working in a laboratory or writing up research, you could be based at one site and work 37 to 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday. You may have to travel to visit other sites or go to meetings.

Research and fieldwork could involve longer and irregular working hours, including evenings and weekends.

You could work outdoors for long periods of time.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could apply for Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) or Chartered Ecologist (CEcol) status.

You could then progress to senior ecologist, leading a team of researchers, developing biodiversity plans or acting as a consultant on sustainable development projects.

Skills required

You'll need:

- a methodical approach to work
- the ability to gather and interpret data
- excellent presentation and report writing skills
- project management skills

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the [Skills tool](#) >

Entry requirements

You'll usually need a degree in a relevant subject, like:

- conservation biology
- ecology
- ecology and environmental sustainability
- ecological science
- environmental science
- marine biology
- zoology

For some jobs, like higher education teaching, research or in areas like ecology consultancy, you'll also be expected to have, or be working towards, a relevant postgraduate qualification, like a master's or PhD.

You could gain work experience and improve your chances of finding work by volunteering.

The Conservation Volunteers, National Trust and Wildlife Trusts have more information on ecology volunteering.

The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) and British Ecological Society have more information on becoming an ecologist.

You'll usually need a driving licence.

Related Know-how guides

Explore Know-how guides related to this career:

- [Sustainable degrees: Humanities](#) >
- [Six myths about climate change](#) >
- [What are some countries doing to prevent climate change?](#) >
- [An introduction to rewilding](#) >

Related university subject profiles

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the Subjects library:

- [Biology and Biological sciences](#) >
- [Horticulture and Botany](#) >

- [Environmental and Earth sciences >](#)
- [Zoology >](#)

Related career profiles

You may also be interested in:

- [Countryside officer >](#)
- [Biologist >](#)
- [Botanist >](#)

Explore

Want to see what relevant education and training opportunities are available right now? Search here:

Biology and Biological sciences at uni:

- [USA >](#)
[UK >](#)
[Canada >](#)
[Europe >](#)
[Asia >](#)
[Australasia >](#)
[Middle East and Africa >](#)
[Ireland >](#)

Horticulture and Botany at uni:

- [USA >](#)
[UK >](#)
[Canada >](#)
[Europe >](#)
[Asia >](#)
[Australasia >](#)
[Middle East and Africa >](#)
[Ireland >](#)

Environmental and Earth sciences at uni:

- [USA >](#)
[UK >](#)
[Canada >](#)
[Europe >](#)
[Asia >](#)
[Australasia >](#)
[Middle East and Africa >](#)
[Ireland >](#)

Zoology at uni:

- [USA >](#)
[UK >](#)
[Canada >](#)
[Europe >](#)
[Asia >](#)
[Australasia >](#)
[Middle East and Africa >](#)
[Ireland >](#)

Apprenticeships:

- [UK >](#)

College / Sixth Form:

- [UK >](#)

Labour Market Information (LMI)

Current and predicted figures relating to the Ecologist profession. Median averages are shown, each with the specific career, or group of careers, that they apply to.

- UK
 USA

Jobs

Conservation and environment professionals

38,911

 185 in your local area of Liverpool

Top 5 local areas

1	Hampshire	1,138
2	Devon	1,021
3	Kent	942
4	Oxfordshire	898

5

Surrey

869

Salaries

Conservation professionals

£36,635

Conservation and environment professionals

£36,209

(Not enough data for this region) in your region of North West

Top 3 regions

1	South East	£37,331
2	South West	£34,904

Growth

2020-2035

Science, research, engineering and technology professionals

+41.4% ↑ 897,801 jobs

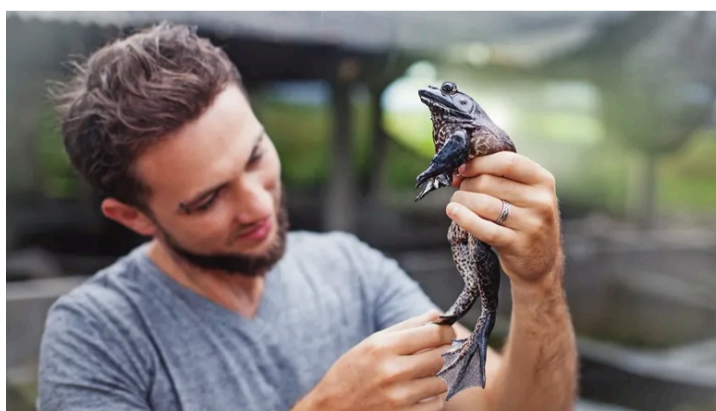
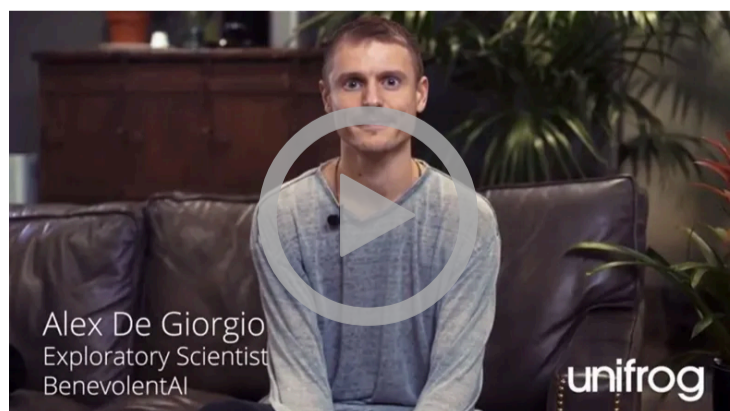
+38.5% in your region of North West, an increase of 80,754 jobs

Save to Favourites? ❤️

You haven't favourited any Careers library profiles yet

People also liked...

Those that liked this career profile also liked the following



Biologist

Biologists study living things, like animals and plants.

[Read the profile >](#)



Zoologist

Zoologists study animals and their behaviours, including topics like evolution, physiology, and classification.

[Read the profile >](#)



Oceanographer

Oceanographers study the seas ar

[Read the profile >](#)