

Steven Ord - Data Analyst Apprentice @ Hampshire County Council
Job Title: Ranger



What led you to do an apprenticeship?

We collect a great deal of data regarding wildlife that lives/uses our sites. This is partly used to evidence our management work to our stakeholders. However large amounts of the data is collected and not used nor is it in a state that could be shared or used as evidence. The ambition was to acquire the skills to change this.

How has the apprenticeship, specifically helped you to improve the way you do your job?

Producing time series has given one of our teams hope that their management is moving in the right direction. Logistic regression has given us new habitat predictors. Dashboards have given us a quick access to good graphical representations with a short ETL pipeline.

What skills did you learn, and projects did you get involved in?

Programming in R, SQL. New statistical tests - data projects for the North Sites Team and for Titchfield Haven considering bird numbers over time, rapid assessments.

How does the programme blend learning with the role you have?

I made sure to carefully select projects that my colleagues were interested in having done to ensure that I could build on what I was learning in the class by putting it into practice.

What are the 3 main things you have achieved throughout the programme?

- 1) Better knowledge of statistical techniques and how to apply.
- 2) Knowledge of programming in R and how to apply.
- 3) Analysis of several small projects on ecological data - Rapid Habitat Assessments, Black tailed Godwit and Snipe Time series and Regression based analysis on indicator species.

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