

Fish Habitat Project Manager

Sophie Johns

Purpose

This role oversees projects aimed at managing, conserving and restoring aquatic environments. Specifically, the focus is on mitigating climate change effects by restoring coastal wetland ecosystems such as mangroves and salt marshes, which were previously cleared for agriculture. This work restores critical fish habitat.



A typical day in my role

A typical day might involve coordinating site works, managing project budgets and timelines. I often work with stakeholders and alongside researchers to oversee the progress of restoration projects. Currently, my focus is on helping manage a blue carbon demonstration site at the Department of Primary Industries' Duck Creek Research Station. With this project we aim to transform a 13-hectare peninsula paddock, currently used for cattle grazing, into mangrove and saltmarsh ecosystems.

Personal attributes

- ✓ Excellent communication skills
- ✓ Technical knowledge
- ✓ Project management

Sophie's Pathway

- Bachelor of Environmental Science and Management, double major in Marine Science and Sustainability
- Education and stakeholder engagement roles
- Volunteering for DPI Fisheries in the research sector

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Quote

“Having grown up on the East Coast of NSW, I've been lucky enough to enjoy the variety of recreational activities associated with coastal and marine environments and resources, and that has really inspired me to take a job with NSW Fisheries because I guess I really want to conserve and protect those environments and resources for future generations so they can enjoy them the same way I have been lucky enough to be able to.”



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www.marine.nsw.gov.au



How to become a Habitat Project Manager

You need a formal qualification in a relevant field such as science, engineering, geography or natural resources to work as a Habitat Project Manager. University and Vocational Education and Training (VET) are both common study pathways.

Scan the QR code for more information

