

# RANGER PORTRAIT

Lukas Schmidt

Ranger in Black Forest National Park  
Germany

## Main duties:

- environmental education
- visitor management
- monitoring
- patrols concerning acts against the national park rules

## Why is your work important to you?

I originally became a forester because I love being in nature. But I soon realised that I wanted to protect the forest rather than see it as an object of use and open up the world of nature to others.

## What is your greatest motivator even when it's hard working out there?

My experiences in nature give me a lot of energy. If I can share them, I give something to people and protect nature. And I get even more in return: positive feedback and yet more unforgettable moments in nature.

## Your biggest moment of luck during work?

I had a very unique moment while monitoring capercaillies. I had been sitting well camouflaged and quietly since 4 am when one of the cocks in the tree began to sing. At dawn he came down and started to display, circling and dancing around me for 15 minutes.



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