

## **Conservation Officers: An examination of traits and values typical of role model officers**

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Conservation officers provide law enforcement protection in a unique and often isolated working environment. This study attempts to identify ways to select officers who will excel under these specialized working conditions. The study uses employee peer review to identify role model officers and the traits that characterize these officers. Role model officers were interviewed to determine how they expressed their values in relation to their work. This study found that role model officers are physically active, honest and ethical in behavior, like helping others, enjoy being outside and are willing to work hard. The overriding trait exhibited by role model officers is a deeply held commitment to and a belief in the value of their work.