

## Biodiversity Challenge Fund – NatureScot Awards

Organisation	Project	Project summary	Awarded 19/20 (£)	Awarded 20/21 (£)	Awarded 21/22 (£)
Tweed Forum	Tweed Invasives Project	<p>To tackle the problem of INNS along the Scottish sections of the river Tweed and its Scottish tributaries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Controlling INNS through spot spraying with herbicide through a combination of seasonal project officers, specialist contractors and trained volunteers.</li> <li>– Re-establishment of native flora and fauna in areas where invasive plants have been removed from the riverside and associated wetland and woodland habitat.</li> <li>– Rust fungus control of Himalayan balsam.</li> <li>– Biosecurity measures to ensure no new species enter the catchment and rapid response protocols.</li> </ul>	36,872	57,978	
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh	Edinburgh Shoreline – The Wild Line	<p>To restore habitats along 27km of Edinburgh's shoreline by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– removal of invasive plant species currently affecting seabird habitat and population resilience across the Forth estuary,</li> <li>– applying proof-of-concept research in biodiverse coastal infrastructure to achieve industry-scale implementation on sea defences at eight locations,</li> <li>– creating an extensive, habitat-rich, coastal park.</li> </ul>	99,969	49,823	
Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust	Little France Park	To restore and improve the biodiversity value of Little France Park in Edinburgh by enhancing the quality of existing habitats (hedges, scrub), reinstating degraded habitats (grassland) and creating a network of new,	92,151	55,637	

		high-value habitats targeted at butterflies (northern brown argus, common blue, small copper), thus creating a key link in a green corridor from Edinburgh city centre to Midlothian.			
The Froglife Trust	Come Forth for Wildlife	To improve the biodiversity of 12 sites in Falkirk for the benefit of amphibians and reptiles through the creation of ponds and scrapes, restoration of wetland areas and improvement of terrestrial habitats including creation of wildflower meadows. To enhance habitat connectivity in 4 neighbourhoods in Falkirk through community-led creation and restoration of ponds, and creation of wildlife features such as hibernacula, in urban greenspaces.	100,070	59,940	
Borders Forest Trust	Restoring Montane Scrub and Bearberry in the Wildheart of Southern Scotland	The restoration of 50ha of montane scrub at Corehead, Carrifran Wildwood and Talla and Gameshope in the central Southern Uplands of Scotland. And, the pioneering restoration of the upland heath dwarf shrub Bearberry <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> to the Carrifran Wildwood, which forms part of the Moffat Hill SSSI and SAC.	51,490	16,880	
Trees for Life	Carn na Caorach Montane Woodland Enclosure	The purpose of this grant is to make provision for an enclosure to allow woodland generation and to plant 14ha of native woodlands. The aim is to use volunteers to bring trees on in the nursery and plant them in the enclosure to complete the woodland cover (approximately a further 250 ha) over the following 10 years.	46,052	390	

Dee District Salmon Fishery Board	Dee Riparian Habitat Project	To implement practical measures to create, restore and enhance riparian habitats throughout the catchment of the River Dee to include native tree planting, introduction of wooded structures and enhancement of wooded buffer strips.	50,047	106,868	
Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries Trust	Partnership working to enhance three key freshwater pearl mussel populations in the north, south and west of Scotland	To improve c 14.8km of riparian and 2.9km of instream habitat to support freshwater pearl mussels and salmonids at three sites in Scotland.	105,709	14,973	
Buglife Scotland	Central Scotland B-lines	The purpose of the 'Central Scotland B-Lines' project is to create a network for nature by increasing the area of wildflower-rich grasslands and restoring habitat connectivity within East Dunbartonshire, South Lanarkshire, Falkirk and Edinburgh.	58,746	98,501	
Scottish Canals	Greening Pinkston Basin	Establishment of wetland refuge habitat within the Pinkston basin area using a Floating Wetland system and involving the planting of over 3,600 native aquatic plants to form an aquatic and terrestrial habitat suitable for fish, insects, amphibians, birds and mammals.	100,300	29,700	
Glasgow City Council (on behalf of the Seven Lochs Partnership)	Seven Lochs and Cumbernauld SpRiNT (Species Rich Networks Team)	To deliver 21 habitat creation and enhancement projects in parks, amenity greenspaces and green corridors across the Seven Lochs and Cumbernauld Living Landscape project areas – focusing on increasing species richness (especially pollinator species, and at Seven Lochs also water vole), and bringing sites into positive conservation management.	47,100	33,100	

RSPB Scotland	Curlews in Crisis Scotland	The purpose of the grant is to work in partnership within specific areas of Caithness and Ayrshire to increase suitable breeding habitat for curlew through targeted management and to conduct studies of success against control sites. The project will advocate curlew friendly proposals that could be applied elsewhere.	90,626	66,055	
St Andrews Botanic Garden	St Andrews Green Corridors	To develop, enhance and link two key habitat corridors across the town of St Andrews in Fife in order to reduce habitat loss, establish and implement a sustainable management plan for invasive species and reduce ecological fragmentation of the space resulting from years of development and lack of management for biodiversity.	60,502	101,281	
National Trust For Scotland	Invasive non-native species (INNS) control in North West Scotland	Invasive non-native plant control at Balmacara, Corrieshalloch, Torridon and Inverewe.	26,255	56,745	
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	Fetlar Red-Necked Phalarope Habitat Management	To undertake management works to restore and significantly improve two key breeding sites for the rare red necked phalarope at the Mires of Funzie and Loch of Stivla and install three data loggers.	136,973	1,801	
Cairngorms National Park Authority	Cairngorms Nature Action Plan	Action for Aspen – fencing and stock removal to allow natural regeneration of aspen suckers, planting up 3ha. of aspen to improve connectivity between existing sites. Male or female trees will be added to single sex stands to increase reproduction and genetic diversity. Rare Invertebrates in the Cairngorms - making the area more favourable for pine hoverfly and other pollinator species by captive rearing of pine hoverfly for release,	21,204	24,851	

		creation of stumps for larval development and providing young rowan with protective tubing.			
Angus Council	River South Esk Catchment – 2020 Source to Sea Challenge	To undertake various works and associated monitoring on and around the River South Esk in Angus – montane enclosure for woolly willow, riparian planting of native broad leaved trees, riverbank restoration and introduction of large woody debris and de-culverting and wetland creation on the Den Burn in Brechin.	53,603	111,091	
RSPB Scotland	East Scotland Corn Bunting Project	The purpose of this grant is to provide advice to land managers to benefit at-risk farmland birds particularly corn bunting, within eastern Scotland. The grant supports staff costs to provide the advice and also ensure delivery of the specific land management targets defined in the application.	19,632	51,732	
Dee Catchment Partnership	Easter Beltie Restoration Project	To establish a new area of river corridor and floodplain through the creation of a new meandering channel, connected to its floodplain and re-connected to the downstream river corridor, enriched by riparian native tree planting, woodland and open wet ground.	4,791	185,205	
ScotFWAG	The Birds and Bees Project	The purpose of the grant is to allow ScotFWAG to facilitate the restoration and expansion of extensively managed species-diverse grassland to help reconnect farmland habitats. This will be achieved through their use of their suite of Farmland advisors throughout Scotland working in partnership with 55-60 farmers to create up to 0.5ha of habitat on each farm.	107,199	41,912	

Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS)	Improving conditions around protected areas to increase connectivity around and within freshwater pearl mussel SACs	To remove impediments to fish movement on three key tributaries of the River Borgie SAC, and increase broadleaf riparian woodland on the River Oykel SAC and tributaries of the River Evelix and River Borgie SAC.	44,500	125,500	
Tweed Forum	Upper Yarrow Landscape Initiative	To restore a previously straightened part of the Little Yarrow tributary of the River Tweed, creating a natural, meandering river channel, within a 12 ha floodplain, restored to a mosaic of natural wetlands and native woodland.		102,791	
RSPB Scotland	Enhance, Create and Pollinate - creating pollinator friendly habitats across Scotland	The purpose of this grant is to create approximately 91ha of pollinator friendly habitat in various locations across Scotland.		94,027	
Galloway Fisheries Trust	Water of Luce and Tarf Water headwaters climate resilience fish project	To undertake a range of in stream works, riparian planting and planting of willow stakes at the headwaters of the River Luce and upper Tarf Water tributary to improve instream habitats, reduce erosion and sediment washout and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change.		91,853	
Woodland Trust Scotland	Loch Arkaig – Glen Mallie Forest Edge Restoration	Fell-to-recycle all non-native trees across 88ha at Glen Mallie, Loch Arkaig to enable the recovery of the native woodland habitat, through creating space for regeneration and reducing the shade and persistent litter created by non-native conifers.		96,300	



Scottish Wildlife Trust	Protecting and enhancing species rich grassland	The purpose of the project is to deliver tangible biodiversity benefits to species-rich grassland and other priority habitats through appropriate management techniques. This will be achieved through purchase of materials and improvements to infrastructure to allow more effective site management.		106,395	13,042
Spey Fishery Board for the Spey Catchment Initiative	Re-wooding the River Calder	Establish up to 20ha of riparian woodland along 3.5 km of the River Calder, an upland tributary of the Spey (SAC), by installing deer fencing to remove grazing pressure, planting with native tree species and encouraging natural regeneration.		191,121	
Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA)	Cairngorms Wetlands	To deliver key wetland habitat and species conservation actions from the Cairngorms Nature Action Programme, particularly: improving breeding and foraging habitats of red and amber listed waders, mammals and invertebrates and restoring Freshwater Pearl Mussel populations within the River Spey catchment trialling host fish encystment.		54,575	
Trees for Life	West Affric Montane Woodland Habitat Expansion	Extend three existing native woodland exclosures by a total of 61 hectares on the NTS West Affric estate to secure the seed sources they have generated, plant 15ha with appropriate, native, montane tree species at a density of 500 per ha to increase the seed source for montane species and improve montane woodland habitat connectivity.		125,538	
Dee District Salmon Fishery Board	Garbh Allt & Upper Muick River Restoration Project	To restore and enhance instream and riparian habitats along two sub-catchments of the River Dee through		92,600	

		removal of artificial embankments, reconnection of backwater channels and reintroduction of woody structures to create habitat for a range of aquatic species and reduce flooding impact.			
Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust	The Endrick Legacy Project	Undertake control measures for Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed and American skunk cabbage, American mink and American signal crayfish in the Endrick catchment. Undertake a number of small scale riparian tree planting schemes in key spawning / juvenile habitat areas. Improve access for migratory fish to spawning habitat through improving/replacing water gates, unblocking streams and removing other man-made restrictions.		98,180	
RSPB Scotland	Clyde Valley Waders - Enhancing Landscapes in South West Scotland	The RSPB led project in partnership with 17 Landowners and SAC Consulting Solutions will give direct action to improve habitat and species management and improve the survival rates of upland waders as well as study these successes to allow promotion of better practice. The project will result in increased connectivity between breeding sites in the landscape scale in the area around Crawfordjohn.		80,522	9,419
Woodland Trust Scotland	Eisg Brachaidh Biodiversity Restoration Project	To restore the health of 2,000ha of various habitats in SSSI/SAC on Eisg Brachaidh estate through reducing the deer grazing pressure and some supplementary planting. This involves erecting a 17.1km fence, installing a cattle grid and undertaking deer control.		198,341	



Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority	Inversnaid Invasive Non-native Plant Species Control Project	The initial treatment principally of invasive Rhododendron as well as small populations of Japanese knotweed and American skunk cabbage around Inversnaid on east Loch Lomond. As part of this the Park will train volunteers in the safe use of herbicides and will purchase appropriate equipment, PPE and herbicide.		41,522	69,468
RSPB Scotland (on behalf of Inner Forth Futures Partnership)	Inner Forth Futures Wetland Habitat Network	Wetlands at five sites around the Forth will be improved with new habitats created, degraded habitats improved, hydrology and saline lagoons managed, and invasive species removed.		119,415	
Forth Rivers Trust	Revive the Allan	To undertake an initial phase of the Revive the Allan project that will enhance the riparian corridor between Milton of Panholes and Deaf Knowe, reconnecting the floodplain to the river using a pre-railway channel, creating new wetlands and undertaking green banking in support of natural flood management solutions.		194,062	
North Isles Landscape Partnership	North Isles Habitat Management and Restoration Project	Grant offer not yet finalised			
		<b>TOTAL AWARDED</b>	<b>1,353,791</b>	<b>2,977,205</b>	<b>91,929</b>