



NESBiP Update - October 2024 🍁

Dear Biodiversity Hero,

Welcome to all the new subscribers to the North East Scotland Biodiversity Partnership ([NESBiP](#)) newsletter. I hope you are all enjoying the first signs of autumn as much as I am - changing colours of leaves, first signs of winter berries and the sound of Pink-footed Geese flying overhead 🍏!

I hope you enjoy our October update, feel free to share with your friends and colleagues.

Happy reading 📖,

Abbie Ferrar

NESBiP Biodiversity Coordinator

North East Big 5 - Renewal

In 2014, NESBiP ran a campaign for people to vote for the [North East Big 5](#). These were Bottle Nose Dolphin, Small Blue Butterfly, Pine Martin, Hedgehog and Common Toad.

We would like to renew this list and potential change the Big 5. But we need your help to choose a list for people to vote from. I would like to stress that we want to be use the right mix of species (or habitat) and not just use those that are cute or endangered.

Please provide a short summary of why your nominated North East Big 5 species or habitat should be included. Suggestions will be collected and then discussed at the NESBiP Advisory Group meeting

Your nomination of a North East Big 5 should look at the following criteria:

1. Characteristic of North East Scotland
2. Of conservation concern
3. Where local action can help

You can submit your nomination here [🔗 https://forms.gle/RN7924XDMUuV4Eke8](https://forms.gle/RN7924XDMUuV4Eke8)

Keep Scotland Beautiful Awards 2024

Congratulations to [Aberdeen City Council](#) for winning a number of awards at the [Keep Scotland Beautiful](#) event. And to the [Ury Riverside Park](#) for winning the Garden for Life Biodiversity award.

It was wonderful seeing all the North East Scotland groups involved.

Read the full press release here: [Keep Scotland Beautiful Awards 2024](#)




Tomintoul Scything featured on Radio

BBC Radio Scotland joined the Tomintoul scything day in August to chat about this traditional practice and why it's important for conservation and people. They spoke

with [Outdoor & Woodland Learning North East Scotland](#), [Glenlivet Estate](#) and [Cairngorms](#) Trainee Rangers.

 [Scotland Outdoors - Bogs, Bairns, Stovies and Scything - BBC Sounds](#)

 You can watch NESBiP's videos about the event here: [Using historical cutting methods on wildflower meadows](#) and [Scything - good for nature & people](#)

Wild Spaces Map

Did you know in 2005 only 7% of front gardens were paved? In 2015 that figure grew to 30%. Gardens are incredibly important for our wildlife, and that's why we have a [webpage dedicated to gardening](#) and a [Wildlife Gardening Facebook Group](#).

Butterfly Conservation are asking people to do their bit for nature and create more green space. With their interactive map you can see the different types of green spaces near you. You can even input your own 🖱️ <https://wild-spaces.co.uk/>

Go put North East Scotland green spaces on the map!





North East Scotland Mammal Network

- 🦊 Are you enthusiastic about mammals?
- 👉 Wanting to learn more about ID and recording?
- 🐭 Then this group is for you North East Scotland Mammal Network

You can join the network for free until March 2025. Find out more 🙌
nesmatnet@gmail.com or [join their Facebook Group](#).

NHS Grampian Biodiversity Strategy

The strategy ultimately is about guiding actions at the local level, while acknowledging that site-specific plans will be unique based on local flora, fauna, and environmental factors.

NESBiP will be supporting on delivering some of the actions of this strategy, and it is in its final stages before being published.



📅 Upcoming Events 📅

- [Wildflower Seed Collection](#) - Tuesday 1st October, 10:00 - 12:00, Greyhope Bay
- [Great Scottish Squirrel Survey](#) - 30th September to 6th October.
- [One Seed Forward Green Libraries Week](#) - 7 to 13th October.
- [One Seed Forward Learning & Growing courses.](#)
- Aberdeen City Countryside Rangers have launched their [autumn events program](#).
- Aberdenshire Countryside Rangers hold a number of events throughout the year:
[Eventbrite](#)
- [CIEEM Scotland event - Monitoring and evaluating restoration and re-wilding approaches](#) - 22 October, 12:30 - 14:00, Zoom
- Wild Things have a jam packed program this October Half-Term - [Adventures - Wild Things \(wild-things.org.uk\)](#)



Other updates:

- Thank you to everyone that joined our first NESBiP Awareness & Involvement Group Forum about pollinators. Stay tuned for details on our next Forum about **ponds**.
- Thank you to **TAQA Group** for finally supporting NESBiP's Scything and Wildflower works. We are excited to start delivering more workshops and talks throughout the North East.
- We are relaunching our School and Community Group Camera Trap project. If you would like to be involved with our 3-month free loan scheme, please get in touch with us at nesbip@hutton.ac.uk.
- **One Seed Forward** are launching a Gardening and Nature related talk/workshop series at Aberdeen Central and Aberdeenshire libraries in October and November. They are looking for people who are happy to delivery talks, for more information contact, oneseedforward@gmail.com.
- Don't forget you can [submit your Biological Records](#) through NESBReC.

Would you like to be featured in the next newsletter?

Keep the partnership updated with your biodiversity work by featuring in our next newsletter.

Email us at nesbip@hutton.ac.uk.



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