

NESBiP December 2025 Update

NESBiP's Hibernation



Merry Christmas and Happy December to those that don't celebrate!

The NESBiP team are taking a break from Wednesday 24th December until Monday 5th January. Our social media and emails will not be monitored during this time.

Our **Wildlife Gardening Facebook Group** is a fantastic place to ask any questions. **Our website** also has a search function to help find your biodiversity query.

NESBiP's 2025 Wrapped

As the NESBiP 2025 Season concludes, we reflect on a remarkable year, thanking everyone for their support in promoting local biodiversity. Highlights include:

- Co-hosted a seminar with Nescan Hub, attracting 100 participants.
- Delivered 11 wildflower and scything workshops with 178 attendees.
- Collaborated on two BioBlitz events and participated in two others.
- Achieved 3.9K Facebook followers, 200 newsletter subscribers, and launched a new Instagram account.
- Supplied 12 camera traps to schools and communities.
- Participated in 4 planting events, offering guidance to local communities.

We look forward to an exciting 2026! **Watch our little recap here.**

5 Nature-Based New Year's Resolutions - NESBiP Blog

Looking for easy, positive ways to help wildlife in the year ahead? We've shared 5 nature-based New Year's resolutions that anyone can take part in — whether you have a garden, a balcony, or simply enjoy spending time outdoors.

Every action counts — and together we can help nature thrive.

Read our blog



Save the Date NESBReC Recorder's Forum 2026

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Date: 28th March 2026

Time: 10am - 3pm

Location: ZG18 Lecture Theatre, Zoology Building, University of Aberdeen, AB24 2TY

NESBReC would also like to take this opportunity to remind anyone that hasn't sent in their records for 2025, the upcoming holiday period would be an ideal time to do so! **Find out how.**

Invitation to Participate Atlantic Salmon Restoration Semi-Structured Interviews

The River Dee Trust have been working with Lauren McElroy, a PhD Candidate from the University of Waterloo (Canada) who is examining how organisations engage with young people in Atlantic salmon restoration activities as part of her doctoral research. She is looking to undertake semi-structured interviews over Zoom with those working with young people across the River Dee as a case study, alongside a local case study being undertaken on the Morell River in Canada.



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More details and how to contact Lauren

Save the Date! - Spring Seminar 2026

Bookings open on 19th January

Mark your calendar and save the date for NESBiP and NESCAN Hub's Spring Seminar! This years theme Nature Connections.

Friday 6th March 2026

The James Hutton Institute, Aberdeen



Wee Forests in North East Scotland - Guest Blog

Ever wondered how much impact a tiny forest can make?

Mike Raby from SRUC dived deep into the Miyawaki Method, spending his Honours project studying Wee Forests across North East Scotland — measuring growth, tracking carbon, and uncovering the powerful benefits of these mini-woodlands.

Want to see what he found after countless hours among the trees?



© Mike Raby

[Read our latest guest blog](#)

The Secret Gardener: Jobs to do in your garden in December



© Helen Rowe

Butterfly Conservation's latest Secret Gardener blog shares simple, seasonal jobs to do in December—from planning wildlife-friendly planting to small changes that make a big difference for nature. A quick, inspiring read for anyone who loves gardening with wildlife in mind.

[Read it here](#)

Bugs Matter results are in

The 2025 Bugs Matter survey shows a serious decline in flying insects in the UK, with a 59% drop in numbers on vehicle number plates over five years and an average annual decline of 19% since 2021. This alarming trend highlights the crucial role insects play in ecosystems and emphasizes the urgent need for action.

[Full details here.](#)



Funding

SEED Fund (Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire)

The Seed Fund is designed for small community projects. Any local not-for-profit community-led organisation, with an annual income under £50,000 that is based in Aberdeen City or Aberdeenshire can apply. In some cases, we can accept applications from individuals on behalf of informal groups.

Apply for grants up to £500.

Have your say!

Draft Moray Council Biodiversity Strategy - Extended deadline to 4th January

All public bodies in Scotland have a duty to take positive action and decisions around nature as they carry out their responsibilities. The draft Biodiversity Strategy brings together the many areas of work which Moray Council impacts on, influences, or benefits from nature

Draft Climate Change Plan (CCP)

Deadline: 29th January

The draft CCP sets out how the Scottish government aims to meet its emissions-reduction targets. However, it's not only about cutting emissions, but also about how Scotland makes these changes. The plan will play an essential role in shaping a fairer, greener future, and the Scottish Government wants to hear from communities about whether it feels fair and what may be needed to make it work in real life.

Proposed Moray Nature Network

Moray Council's draft Biodiversity Strategy incorporates the proposed Moray Nature Network; a strategic plan to connect and restore nature across Moray that is relevant to anyone interested in nature, or who may impact it through their activities.

Interactive mapping can be viewed in the **Proposed Moray Nature Network** story map.



Upcoming Events

- Land use strategies across the UK, Online. Tuesday 13th January. 12:30 - 13:30. 🐿 **Book your place**
- Coastal Future 2026, Online or London. Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th January, all day 🐿 **Book your place**
- Arable Futures, Invergowrie. Tuesday 24th February, 9:30 - 16:40 🐿 **Book your place**
- Nature Towns and Cities 2026 events 🐿 **Find out more**
- Wildlife Gardening Talks at Aberdeenshire Libraries 🐿 **Find out more**
- Aberdeenshire Council Countryside Rangers 🐿 **Upcoming Events**
- Aberdeen City Council Countryside Rangers 🐿 **Upcoming Events**
- NESBReC 🐿 **Upcoming Events.**
- A brand new film club in Peterhead, and it's free to attend! 🐿 **Friends of the Earth Reel Change**

Other Updates

- Growing community power through green space webinar 🐿 **Watch it here**
- North Sea gas platform powered by offshore wind in industry first 🐿 **Read it here**
- Covid-19 Pandemic created 2020 'year of the quiet ocean' 🐿 **Read it here**
- Join NESBiP's Camera Trap Loan scheme, borrow a camera trap for up to 3 months with us. Pop us an email to find out more.
- Join the NES Mammal Network 🐿 **FREE membership registration**
- Join the Nature-Friendly Farming Network 🐿 **More information**
- **NESBiP Big 5:** Learn how to take action and protect Hedgehog, Swift, Northern Damsel fly, Mixed Native Hedgerow Species and Native Willow Species.
- Wild About Your Garden booklets 🐿 **You can download a copy here.**
- NESBiP is on Instagram 🐿 **Follow us, tag us in your biodiversity photos and share our posts**
- Did you miss our previous newsletter and would like to catch up? Find them on our website 🐿 **NESBiP Monthly Newsletter**

