

NESBiP June 2026 Update

Invasive Species Week

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This week is Invasive Species Week, a great time to raise awareness of the impacts invasive non-native species have on our wildlife and habitats.

Take a moment to revisit our 2025 blog for practical advice on identifying invasive species and simple steps you can take to help prevent their spread.

Together, we can help protect our local biodiversity. 🌿

[Read it here](#)

Aberdeen Insect Week

Aberdeen Insect Week is now underway!



Taking place from 22–28 June 2026, this exciting programme of events has been organised by SRUC PhD candidate Charlotte Wood, with support from NESBiP.

Part of the wider Insect Week led by the Royal Entomological Society, it's a fantastic opportunity to learn more about the vital role insects play in our ecosystems.

There are still spaces available on some activities, don't miss your chance to get involved!

[Find out more](#)

Aberdeen Insect Week

22nd - 28th June 2026

Monday 22nd	Introduction to Beetle Identification with Aberdeen Ranger Service Venue TBC
Tuesday 23rd	Greyhope Morning: Master the Art of Insect Surveying 10:00 - 12:00 at Greyhope Bay Centre Bordered Brown Lacewing ID and survey taster session with Buglife 14:00 - 16:00 at Cove Bay
Wednesday 24th	Wildflowers for Pollinators with NESBiP and Curam Fyfe 14:00 - 16:00 at Duthie Park
Friday 26th	Stand Tall for the Small – Entomology Talks The James Hutton Institute
Saturday 27th	The Big Bug Bash: Family Fun Day with SRUC and Friend's of St Fitick's Park St Fitick's Park
Sunday 28th	Dipping into Discovery: All Ages Pond Dipping with SRUC Den of Maidencraig Nature Reserve





BioBlitzes happening in North East Scotland

A **BioBlitz** is a collaborative, community event where people work together over a set period to record as many species as possible in a specific area. These events generate valuable data that improves understanding of local biodiversity and supports conservation efforts. They also provide a great opportunity for people of all ages and experience levels to connect with nature, learn new skills, and discover the wildlife on their doorstep.

Aberdeen City-Wide BioBlitz 2026

The Aberdeen City-Wide BioBlitz 2026 will take place on Friday 14th August, bringing together communities, experts and nature enthusiasts to explore and record wildlife across the city. With a central hub at the James Hutton Institute and activity happening across a range of habitats, there will be opportunities for everyone to get involved, whether you're new to wildlife recording or more experienced. If you would like to lead an activity or event as part of the BioBlitz, please get in touch **via email** to find out more information.

Discover Woodland Wildlife in Elgin – BioBlitz Event

The Elgin Oakwood BioBlitz will take place on Friday 10th July 2026, from 13:00 to 17:00. Based at the Eight Acres Hotel & Leisure Club, this event will include guided wildlife walks and activities focused on recording woodland biodiversity. It's a great chance to explore one of Moray's most important woodland habitats, learn from experts, and contribute to a better understanding of the species that live there.



Landward Episode & the NESBiP Big 5

Did you catch the latest episodes of Landward? 🌿🐸

There's been some brilliant North East biodiversity featured recently!

In episode 10, Vivian from the NTS North East Ranger Service at Castle Fraser spoke about the Northern Damselfly, one of our NESBiP Big 5 🌿. And in episode 11, Cally and Karin from North East Scotland Swifts shared their inspiring work protecting swifts in Huntly, another of our Big 5 species.

Both segments were fantastic showcases of local conservation in action (though we might be a tiny bit biased!). It's great to see these important species and the people working to protect them highlighted on screen.

If you missed them, you can catch up on iPlayer:

- **Episode 10 (Northern Damselfly)** – segment starts at 11:31
- **Episode 11 (Swifts in Huntly)** – segment starts at 11:18



People's Emergency Briefing

The People's Emergency Briefing is a new film being shown across the UK, bringing together leading experts on the climate and nature crises. It's an engaging, evidence-based watch designed to inform and inspire action. You can attend a screening near you or host your own for friends, colleagues or your community.

Find a screening near you and more information on how to organise



Watch: What does nature mean to you?

Hello to our newest subscribers, welcome! We hope you enjoy being part of our growing network supporting biodiversity across the North East of Scotland. To celebrate, take a moment to watch this short video highlighting our work and the fantastic community behind it.

Watch it here.

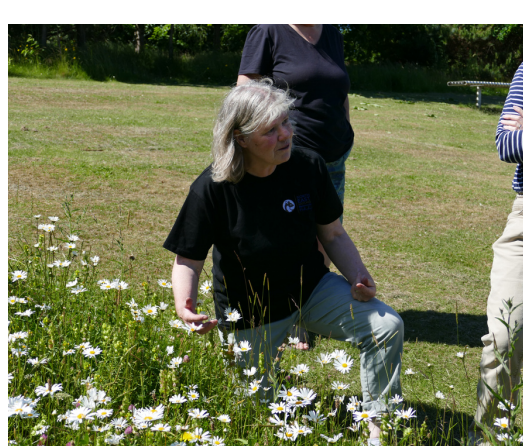
If you find it inspiring, please help us spread the word by sharing both the video and this newsletter with your friends, family, and wider communities—together we can reach more people and make an even greater impact for nature.

NESBiP Wildflower & Scything Workshops

New dates have now been added for our Wildflower and Scything Workshops, following a fantastic start to the programme. Our first session went beautifully, with glorious weather, plenty of enthusiasm, and lots of learning shared throughout the day. Upcoming sessions include:

- Haddo House – Saturday 4th July (Wildflower & Scything)
- Newtonhill – Wednesday 15th July (Wildflower & Scything)
- The James Hutton Institute – Friday 14th August (Wildflower)
- Tomintoul Wildflower Meadow – Friday 4th September (Wildflower & Scything)
- Ury Riverside Park – Saturday 19th September (Wildflower & Scything)
- Old Walled Garden, Tarland – Sunday 20th September (Scything)

If you'd like to get involved and build your skills while supporting biodiversity, take a **look at the upcoming sessions here.**



Upcoming Events

- 'Whale' I never thought we would see that from space! How satellite imagery is giving insights for whale conservation, Online, 30th June, 13:00–14:00 👉 **Book here**
- Restoring the River South Esk – Landscape Scale Wetland & River Restoration (lessons learned), Field event, 21st August, 10:30–13:30 👉 **Book here**
- Rebuilding Nature: Symposium on Good Practice for Ecological Restoration, Online, 8th July, 11:00–15:00 👉 **Book here**
- CIEEM Scotland Conference: Fieldwork Futures: Innovations in Ecological Practice, Glasgow, 29th September, time TBC 👉 **Book here (LinkedIn post)**
- Swift Walk & Talk, The Square Huntly. Tuesday 7th July, 20:30 👉 **Book here**
- Aberdeenshire Council Countryside Rangers 👉 **Upcoming Events**
- Aberdeen City Council Countryside Rangers 👉 **Upcoming Events**
- NESBReC 👉 **Upcoming Events**
- Tomintoul village is turning 250 and has lots of events happening. 👉 **Keep up date on whats happening.**

Upcoming Rare Invertebrate Events

Saturday 25th July, 10:00 – 13:30

Dark Bordered Beauty Monitoring – Insh Marshes

Join Species Champion Pete Moore to check live moth traps as part of an annual monitoring programme. Expect a variety of species, including some nationally scarce moths, plus the star of the show: the Dark Bordered Beauty. **More information.**

Saturday 15th August, 10:00 – 12:30

Small Scabious Mining Bee – Boat of Garten

Discover this rare bee with the Rare Invertebrates in the Cairngorms team. Includes a short talk, guided walk, and free Devil's-bit Scabious plants to take home.

Limited spaces – book via email: **rare.invertebrates@rspb.org.uk**.

Saturday 22nd August, 8.30 – 12:00

Moths, Metamorphosis & Art – Dalnacardoch Estate

A fun morning exploring moths, viewing trap catches, and taking part in a moth life-cycle painting session led by Jan Hendry. Take your artwork home. **More information.**



Other Updates

- **Download our Wild About Garden Booklet** to start your wildlife gardening journey
- **NESBiP Big 5:** Learn how to take action and protect Hedgehog, Swift, Northern Damsel, Mixed Native Hedgerow Species and Native Willow Species.
- Citizen Science is incredibly important as it helps us have a better idea of how nature is doing 🙌 **Learn how to get involved**
- Watch our video on the importance of biological recording in North East Scotland and how you can get involved 🙌 **Watch it here**
- Did you miss our previous newsletter and would like to catch up? Find them on our website 🙌 **NESBiP Monthly Newsletter**

Funding Opportunities

- Outreach & Engagement Grants from British Ecology Society 🙌 **More information**
- Action Earth grants from Volunteering Matters 🙌 **More information**
- Just Transition Participatory Budget Fund 🙌 **More information**
- Moray CAN Funding Opportunities 🙌 **More information**
- NESCAN Hub Funding Opportunities 🙌 **More information**



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