

HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION



**TWO YEAR REVIEW
OCTOBER 2020 – OCTOBER 2022**

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“

Nature must be at the heart of our fight to save the planet. People must harness nature's extraordinary powers to turn the tide on climate change."

SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

01

OUR VISION

A healthy, vibrant environment where people and nature co-exist and flourish.

Protecting and restoring the natural beauty, biodiversity and eco-systems of the Scottish highlands and islands for the benefit of all.

Nature-based solutions allow us to tackle both the climate and biodiversity crises at the same time.



OUR MISSION

We protect and restore nature in the Scottish highlands and islands by funding local nature-based solutions.

We channel funds to the most innovative or impactful community-led projects, providing kick-start or scale-up support.

We showcase project successes to inspire hope and action in these challenging times.



02

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

We share a theory of change with the Conservation Collective, our affiliate partner. The activities of our network are divided into different layers and approaches, working in harmony to create long term, systemic change. We track, measure, and evaluate our efficacy based on how our activities (at project, foundation, and network level) drive social, cultural, and economic outcomes and ultimately achieve environmental impacts.



CONSERVATION COLLECTIVE ACTIVITIES



Launching new foundations



Fundraising



Knowledge sharing



Quality assurance & risk management



Speaking with a collective voice

FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES



Working through communities



Encouraging more, and more effective, environmental philanthropy



Supporting grassroots environmental work



Raising awareness of the natural world and its value



Improving the effectiveness of projects that protect, preserve & regenerate environments



Promoting and supporting collaboration



Encouraging businesses and consumers to act more sustainably



Influencing governments and other institutions

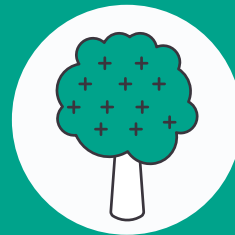
SOCIAL, CULTURAL & ECONOMIC OUTCOMES



People have a greater appreciation of the natural world



Governments, public institutions and media act in ways that support the natural world



Businesses become nature positive



Changes in public behaviour to better preserve, protect and regenerate the natural world



Reduced waste and improved waste management



Increased use of low carbon technology and energy

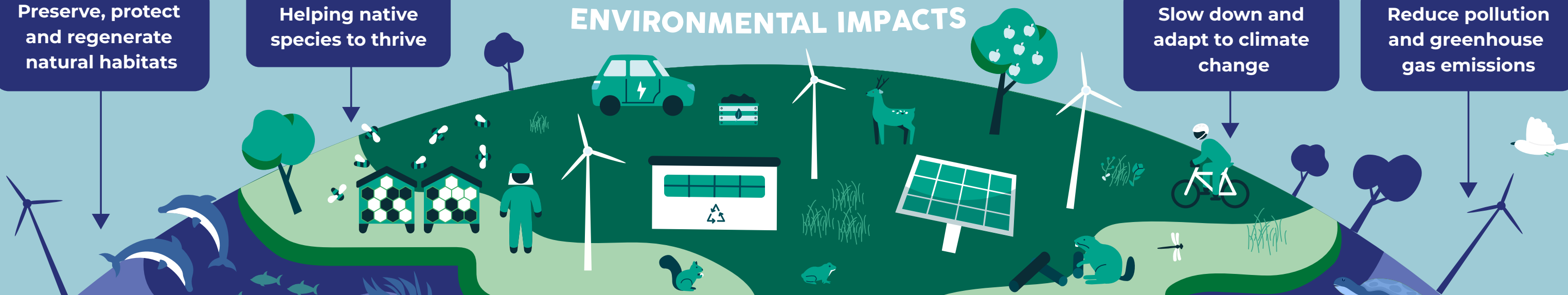
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Preserve, protect and regenerate natural habitats

Helping native species to thrive

Slow down and adapt to climate change

Reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions



OUR STRATEGY



Nature-based solutions tackle both the climate and nature crises at the same time. They sequester carbon, increase biodiversity, mitigate flooding, prevent soil erosion, and reduce or clean up pollution.

The Scottish highlands and islands are the perfect place to scale-up nature-based solutions thanks to the many dedicated and talented people and communities determined to protect and restore the amazing biodiversity and exceptional natural beauty of the area.

We fill a crucial funding gap for smaller, innovative projects. We are independent and agile, directing funds where they are needed most to unlock maximum returns for nature quickly.

03

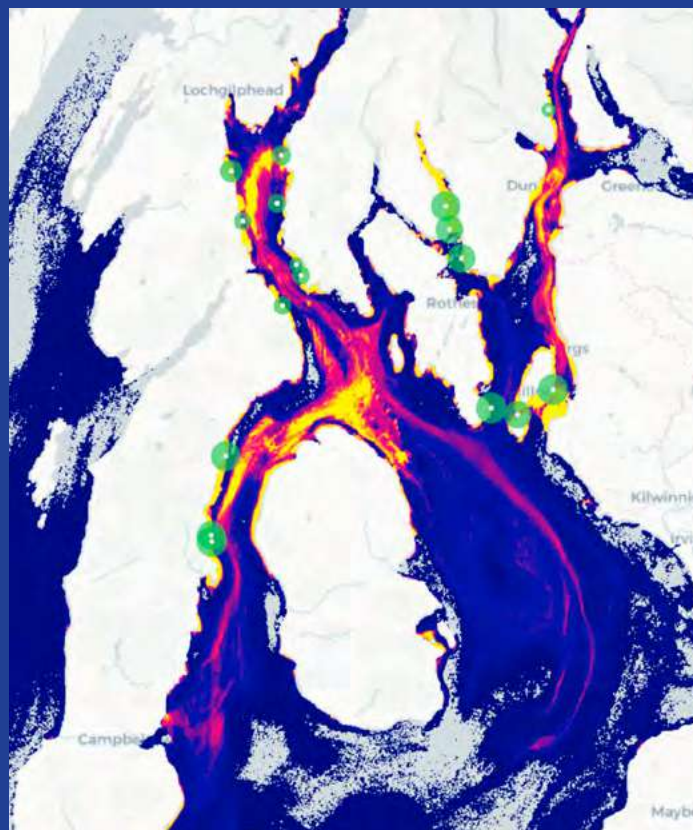
OUR WORK

The Highlands and Islands Environment Foundation specialises in identifying and supporting innovative community-led nature-based solutions. A panel of leading local nature experts are on hand to advise and optimise our grant-making process.

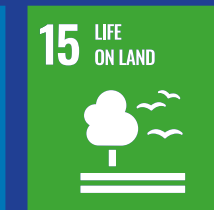


OUR WORK: PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 Mapping & modelling resources**
 Compiling visual 'heat maps' of sea lice, particulate waste and dissolved nutrients from 144 open net fish farms to empower communities to challenge new farm applications and existing farm extensions.
- 2 Highland primary schools birdboxes project**
 Supplying 10 bespoke birdboxes and tailored teaching packs to all 175 primary schools in highland region, providing valuable nesting habitat for native birds and inspiring the next generation of nature champions.



UN Sustainable Development Goals



- 3 West Loch Ness Farm cluster project**
 Supporting the first farm cluster in Scotland, seven farms and one forestry commission site, to manage their land collaboratively benefiting wildlife and increasing biodiversity.
- 4 Guardians of our rivers**
 Funding the creation and training of four citizen science groups to monitor the health of river flies as a benchmark for the health of the rivers where they are found.



“

The HIEF grant enabled our project to become a reality, at a time when smaller organisations find it increasingly difficult to access funding. HIEF are approachable, flexible and happy to adopt a 'boots on the ground' approach' to assessing a project's needs and progress.”

PETE CREECH,
HEART OF ARGYLL WILDLIFE ORGANISATION



OUR IMPACT

Total grants awarded

£488,184

Direct grants from HIEF

£301,484

Additional grants leveraged

£186,700

Projects funded to date

27

28

**campfires prevented
from spreading in the
Scottish rainforest**

**1,100
kg**



**of plastic
waste removed
from the ocean**



£508k

funds raised in first 2 years

1,750

birdboxes installed to provide new nesting habitat



144

**FISH FARMS
EMISSIONS
PLOTTED
TO ASSESS
CUMULATIVE
EMISSIONS
IMPACT**

35k

**NATIVE OYSTERS
GROWN ON AND
RELEASED TO
REGENERATE
OYSTER REEFS**

SUPPORTERS



THE DULVERTON TRUST



HAUSER & WIRTH

NATURISIMO

Saffery Champness
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



**SPEY
SODA**

SWIRE
CHARITABLE
TRUST

10% for the Ocean; Brora; Craigellachie Hotel; Dulverton Trust; Fife Arms Hotel; Fishmongers Charitable Trust; Hauser & Wirth; Naturisimo; Saffrey Champness; Savills; Sharp Stuff; Spey Soda; Swire Charitable Trusts and many other individual donors. We are very grateful for all your support!



When faced with environmental problems often there is a sense of pessimism as the scale can seem overwhelming. One of the things I love about HIEF is that our funding is especially directed towards local people and community groups to bring about change on their doorsteps.”

HUGH RAVEN,
CHAIRMAN OF HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS
ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION

TEAM

Being part of the Conservation Collective family allows us to share world-class knowledge and expertise across the network.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sally McNaught

STEERING COMMITTEE

Hugh Raven (Chair)

Jade Brudenell

Lindsay Bury

Bill Carman

Ben Goldsmith

David Stewart

Bertie Troughton

Caroline Younger

ADVISORY PANEL

A panel of leading local nature experts are on hand to advise and optimise our grant-making process with technical advice as and when required. We are very grateful for their support.



O4

WHAT'S NEXT

Our priority is to increase the funding available for community-led nature-based solutions throughout the Scottish highlands and islands by inspiring more people and businesses to get involved. We also strive to encourage more projects to start, enhancing their impact by sharing our expertise and financial support.



GET INVOLVED

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION

Support community-led nature-based solutions in the Scottish highlands and islands.

[Donate now](#) and spread the word!

 @highlands_islands_environment

 @HighlandsIslan1

 hief.scot

 sally@hief.scot



CONSERVATION COLLECTIVE

Support grassroots nature-based solutions around the world.

[Donate now](#) or to find out more, [get in touch](#).

 @theconservationcollectivenetwork

 @_cc_network

 @conservationcollectiveorg

 conservation-collective.org

 jade@conservation-collective.org



The Highlands and Islands Environment Foundation is a charity registered in Scotland, SC043026 and an affiliate of the Conservation Collective, a charity registered in England and Wales as a charitable incorporated organisation 1185925.

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