

Glasgow City

BIODIVERSITY

Partnership

Progress Report 2009 - 2010



Biodiversity is about the variety of life and about how we live our lives and impact upon the environment. For over eight years Glasgow City Council has been working with many partner organisations to implement Glasgow's Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP). This Progress Report summarises the key achievements for the year to March 2010.

Everyone has a part to play and can get actively involved, from hands on volunteering at a local wildlife site, watching and recording wildlife, thinking about the wider impact of our everyday activities, or by getting out and enjoying our rich natural heritage.

Watching and Recoding

With over 4,000 species recorded in Glasgow there is a great need for survey work to monitor populations and ensure they remain viable.

Achievements 2009-10



- Water Vole, Badger and Otter populations continue to be monitored throughout the City.
- Bat survey carried out along the River Kelvin.
- Breeding bird surveys for Reed Bunting and Skylark were carried out at Todd's Well, Craigend Moss and Bishop Loch.
- Skylark populations monitored at newly created grassland at Hogganfield Park LNR.
- Population monitoring for Common Frog carried out at 30 key sites.
- BTCV volunteers were given amphibian identification and survey techniques training through the Glasgow Living Water Project.
- Palmate newt egg surveys were carried out at Darnley Mill.
- Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary butterfly and Green Hairstreak butterfly populations monitored at Commonhead Moss LNR.
- CRS carried out moth trapping at Pollok Country Park.
- Bog Rosemary and Toothwort surveys continue to be carried out each year.



Making a Difference

Glasgow's rich inheritance of woodlands, wetlands and grasslands are a haven for wildlife and receive protection through the City Plan and vital conservation management work from various sources.

Achievements 2009-10

- Hedgerow planting and diversification was carried out at Windlaw, Pedmyre and Millichen farms.
- Thinning of woodland undertaken at 4 sites to improve ground flora and understorey.
- Glasgow Living Water Project started with funding for 2 years to create and enhance ponds and involve the local community.
- 130m of loch edge naturalised at Hogganfield Park LNR.
- As a result of hydrological monitoring, 10 dams have been installed at Commonhead Moss LNR to increase the water table.
- 8 new ponds have been created and 6 existing ponds have been enhanced for wildlife across the City.
- 10 hectares of grassland at Hogganfield Park LNR cut and baled by a local farmer.
- At Windlaw and Pedmyre farms a further 13 hectares of species rich grassland created and a further 10 hectares brought under sympathetic management.



Grassland management at Hogganfield Park LNR



Tree planting at Kelvingrove Park



Ramsons

Getting Involved

The involvement of volunteers and members of the local community is important in helping to look after local habitats and sites and populations of plants and animals.

Achievements 2009-10

- Prince's Trust volunteers were given training in conservation management and survey techniques.
- 137 days of conservation work was carried out in the City by volunteers from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) and the Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) amounting to a total of 1011 volunteer days.
- Wildlife Counts project was established by BTCV.
- Hindu temple members undertook tree planting at Kelvingrove Park.
- Over 60 volunteers planted 2000 trees in King's Park as part of the Tree O'Clock world record attempt.

Awareness

The provision of information and education events helps us to understand the importance of wildlife but also the impact of our daily actions. An extensive range of events, projects and media have been used to reach out to schools, local communities and the wider public.

Achievements 2009-10

- A bat seminar was held by the Scottish Bat Group for Council staff including planners and landscape architects which included information on identifying bat roosts, prime habitat requirements and the legal requirements for bat protection.
- Bingham's Pond naturalisation project was used as a demonstration to other Local Authorities hoping to enhance greenspaces for biodiversity.
- Robroyston Park LNR 'C in the Park' was held in June with 450 people attending.
- Cardowan Moss LNR Celebrations was held in September involving the Countryside Rangers, Forestry Commission Scotland and Froglife.
- 250 school children took part in International Biodiversity Day event at Queen's Park.
- An awareness raising event was held at Darnley Mill for the general public about amphibians and wildlife recording by Dams to Darnley countryside rangers and Froglife.
- The Glasgow Biodiversity Partnership signed up to become a partner in the International Year of Biodiversity through the Natural History Museum, London.
- Biodiversity News Issues 14 and 15 were produced and distributed widely to Council staff, elected members and community groups.
- Glasgow City Council biodiversity website pages continue to be updated regularly with local news, information and events.
- An interpretation cairn was installed at Hogganfield Park LNR and 3 interpretation panels have been developed for Dawsholm Park LNR.
- 37 schools received SNH grants to develop their school grounds for biodiversity.

For further information on the achievements within this summary or for further news of the LBAP process, please contact the Biodiversity Officers, Carol MacLean, Cath Scott and Keith Watson at the address below:

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Further information is also available from the website: www.glasgow.gov.uk/biodiversity

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