

Roseanna Cunningham MSP launches the Biodiversity Challenge Fund. Scottish Natural Heritage

The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Scottish Natural Heritage are working together to fund projects which will help save endangered species, improve habitats and increase access to nature.

Scottish Natural Heritage recently launched the Biodiversity Challenge Fund (BCF) with funding of up to £2million to support large-scale projects which will improve the health and resilience of the natural environment. The first year of the fund is now open, with up to £1million of investment available in 2019/20.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund continues to prioritise nature and wants to encourage projects applying to the Biodiversity Challenge Fund to also apply for match funding up to £100,000.



Riona McMorrow, Acting Head of the National Lottery Heritage Fund in Scotland, welcomed the new Biodiversity Challenge Fund: “Thanks to funds raised by players of the National Lottery and the launch of the BCF, organisations and community groups involved in the care of our natural environment will now have access to more funding opportunities.

“Nature is a top priority for The National Lottery Heritage Fund and by collaborating with Scottish Natural Heritage, we can ensure that Scotland’s landscapes and species get maximum benefit from our investments, conserving precious places and species while making the great outdoors accessible for many more people to enjoy.”

> It’s exciting to be working with The National Lottery Heritage Fund in giving our incredible natural world a helping hand.
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> *Scottish Natural Heritage Chief Executive Francesca Osowska*

Scottish Natural Heritage Chief Executive Francesca Osowska said: “Scotland has been recognised as a global frontrunner for our efforts to tackle biodiversity loss and safeguard our natural heritage, with notable improvements to our marine environment, peatlands, rivers and woodlands in recent years.

“I’m proud of the progress that has been made, but we are not complacent in the face of ongoing challenges such as climate change, habitat loss and invasive non-native species. It’s exciting to be working with The National Lottery

Heritage Fund in giving our incredible natural world a helping hand.”

To find out more, visit the Biodiversity Challenge Fund website.