



Plantlife press release

Spokespeople available for comment

Cairngorms grasslands receive funding boost

Plantlife Scotland are delighted to secure £31,500 for the Transformative Action for Cairngorms Grasslands project, to protect these iconic Scottish landscapes against climate change and biodiversity loss.



Photo credit: Twinflower, Old Grantown Wood, Cairngorms (C) Keilidh Ewan

Plantlife Scotland are pleased to be receiving a share of £7.6million from the Nature Restoration Fund. This important funding boost will go towards empowering farmers and land managers to take practical steps to protect the grasslands of the Cairngorms for the future.

The Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund has the ambitious aim of halting biodiversity loss by 2030, and reversing it by 2045.

Sam Jones from the Plantlife Scotland team shares his excitement about this important funding boost below.

“We are delighted to receive this funding, which will help us develop a new approach for the protection and restoration of wildlife-rich grasslands in the Cairngorms. Grasslands are a crucial part of the beautiful landscape of Scotland, with effective management supporting rare and valuable species and habitats. We will be helping farmers and land managers make changes to their approach to grasslands holistically

and on an individual basis in order to sustain wildlife and livelihoods. We'll be doing this with the help of the Cairngorms National Park Authority, whose project support we are also extremely grateful for."

Plantlife Scotland shares in £7.6m boost to transform Scotland's nature

A project to restore wildlife-rich grasslands in the Cairngorms has been awarded a share of £7.6m from the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund.

Transformative Action for Cairngorms Grasslands has been awarded £31,500 to work with farmers and land managers in the Cairngorms to develop a project to help protect and restore wildlife-rich grasslands in the Cairngorms. This is one of [31 projects](#) that NatureScot has approved to receive funding as part of a national drive to transform nature in Scotland.

Managed by NatureScot, The Scottish Government's £65 million Nature Restoration Fund supports projects that help Scotland's species, woodlands, rivers and seas, as well as improving the health and wellbeing of local communities. These projects take practical steps to help against the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss, and restore Scotland's natural environment.

Sam Jones of Plantlife Scotland said: "We are delighted to receive this funding, which will help us develop a new approach for the protection and restoration of wildlife-rich grasslands in the Cairngorms. Grasslands are a crucial part of the beautiful landscape of Scotland, with effective management supporting rare and valuable species and habitats. We will be helping farmers and land managers make changes to their approach to grasslands holistically and on an individual basis in order to sustain wildlife and livelihoods. We'll be doing this with the help of the Cairngorms National Park Authority, whose project support we are also extremely grateful for."

Biodiversity Minister Lorna Slater said:

"Our Nature Restoration Fund is making a difference across the length and breadth of Scotland, restoring our incredible natural environment, helping wildlife thrive, and investing in rural communities. Scotland's nature is so important to all of us - our woodlands, peatlands, rivers and lochs are central to our cultural heritage and identity. But this complex diversity and abundance of life is also central to our survival as a species. Our economy, jobs, health and wellbeing depend on it. Nature-based solutions - restoring our peatlands and native forests for example - are also key to our success in tackling the climate crisis.

"Following the agreement of new global targets to end extinctions and restore nature, we have published our new Scottish Biodiversity Strategy, setting out our high-level ambition for a nature positive future in Scotland by 2030. This year we will follow it with a new Delivery Plan setting out how we will achieve our stretching goals, including protecting 30% of our land and seas for nature by 2030. Our world leading Nature Restoration Fund will help us achieve that goal by delivering real, transformative change across the country."

Chair of NatureScot Mike Cantlay said:

“Large-scale nature restoration projects are vital to help us tackle the twin crises of biodiversity loss and climate change. If we are to have any chance of saving nature, then we must do everything we can to halt its decline now.

“The Nature Restoration Fund supports ambitious action to put Scotland’s land and seas, and all the wild species that inhabit them, back on the road to recovery. It is project like this one that will make a real and positive difference and we’re excited to see how it progresses. With the Nature Restoration Fund, we are helping Scotland to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and reverse it by 2045.”

Since its launch in July 2021, the Nature Restoration Fund has awarded £17 million to 127 projects across Scotland through its Helping Nature and Transforming Nature funding streams.'

Ends

Notes to editors:

More information about Plantlife’s work in the Cairngorms
<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/case-studies/cairngorms-rare-plants-project/>

Plantlife Scotland home [Plantlife Scotland](#)