

CAIRNGORMS NATURE

Cairngorms Nature is now well established as a partnership delivering an ambitious agenda for nature conservation in the Cairngorms. It brings together organisations delivering conservation on the ground and engages a wide range of people in nature, particularly through the annual Cairngorms Nature Festival.

The Cairngorms is one of the best places in the UK to deliver landscape scale conservation and current Cairngorms Nature priorities include woodland expansion, wetland enhancement, capercaillie and raptor conservation.

There is an exciting scale of connected woodland expansion taking place from Abernethy, round the central Cairngorms to Mar Lodge and the early stages of a montane woodland project are being developed.

This year also saw work begin on the Cairngorms capercaillie framework. With around 80% of the UK's capercaillie population in the Cairngorms, what happens here is critical to the species' future survival and expansion.

This year Cairngorms Nature partners delivered:

- Over 800 ha of new native woodlands and 1 million trees
- More than 350 ha of peatland restoration at 7 project sites
- 20,000 new plant records across the Park
- 3,000 ha of land managed for the benefit of farmland waders
- Targeted and innovative action for some of the UK's rarest species like twinflower and wildcat
- 200ha ancient woodland being restored as part of the UK's most extensive and ambitious programme woodland restoration
- More than 100,000 ha of land accredited under the Wildlife Estate Scotland scheme
- 60km of river restoration and riparian planting with plans for re-naturalising extensive floodplains on the Dee and Spey.
- 6,000 John Muir Awards
- 2,500 volunteer days