

**Water Environment Fund
Annual Report to Scottish Government
April 2017 – March 2018**

Table 1: Detail of projects and environmental improvements supported by the Water Environment Fund in 2017/18

Project name	Applicant	Costs – WEF contribution	Type – scope/design/works	Summary of project/environmental improvement
<i>Improving urban rivers</i>				
Lyne Burn	Fife Council	£343,039.61	Works – Morphology improvements	Scoping of entire River body completed in 2015/16. Funding has been provided via a Memorandum of Understanding. Project will ultimately result in status upgrades for 1 water body, and the restoration of approximately 1.2km of urban water course.
Garrel Burn	North Lanarkshire Council	£570,000	Design	Scoping and options development into ground conditions around the burn in advance of design for an urban river and wetland restoration project. This is a partnership project between the council and SEPA, facilitated by a joint MoU. Restoring the burn will improve 1.5 km over river channel condition from poor to good ecological potential.
Biggar Water	Tweed Forum	£29,250.00	Scoping	Statement of requirement tender is being prepared to look at full suite of measures and ensure a catchment approach is taken. Potential to link NFM measures upstream and downstream via WEF measures in the urban stretches through Biggar. Opportunity areas have been identified but estimates of km improved still to be finalised.
Back Burn	Fife Council	£32,500.00	Scoping	
Lochshot Burn	West Lothian Council	£9,550.60	Scoping	Part of the wider Livingston Blue-Green network scoping project. Consultants report will be completed in next few weeks, which will also incorporate the findings of a public consultation. Lengths to be improved still to be finalised.
Calders Catchment Barriers	SEPA	£21,753.56	Scoping	
<i>Improving rivers for fish migration</i>				
Sevenacres Weir	Ayrshire River Trust	£27,665.60	Works– fish barriers	Site investigations and ground preparations for a two flight Larinier fish pass at Sevenacres weir that will open up over 45km of river including 18km of good habitat to salmonids. Together with actions at Garden weir, ecological status for fish barriers will be raised to good.

Morsgail	RAFTS	£6,224.00	Works – fish barriers	Works completed on fish barrier removal. 3km of channel has been opened up to migratory fish and the water body will achieve high status.
Tarff Creamery Weir	RAFTS	£2,310.00	Works – fish barriers	Works complete to remove a barrier to allowing fish to access 10km of river and this will achieve the WFD objective of reaching good ecological potential.
Avon Water Barriers – Phase 4	RAFTS	£277,823.66	Works – fish barriers	Works now complete for this project, it has opened up 100km of river habitat to migratory fish species and will improve the overall status of 6 water bodies, with 5 going to high status and 1 going to moderate status.
Diebidale Dam Easement	Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries Trust	£3,459.44	Design – fish barriers	Completion of surveys and outline designs in preparation for full dam removal. Removal of the dam would allow access for fish into 5km of high quality habitat upstream. The waterbody would improve from poor to good Ecological Status as a result of this work.
Glazert Kirk Burn	SEPA	£6,810.00	Scoping	
Lower Tyne barriers	SEPA	£59.40	Engagement	Review of constraints and development of options for three historic barriers on the River Tyne. Eventual easement at these structures combined with regulatory action on additional 2 barriers will restore migratory access to over 225km of river across 12 waterbodies which would improve from moderate to good for fish passage, 4 of which would also move to good overall ecological status.
Garlogie Dam	The River Dee Trust	£150,000.00	Works	
Gottar Water	SEPA	£34,665.72	Options	

<i>Improving physical condition of rural rivers</i>				
Aberarder – Phase 3	Aberarder Estate	£231,991.26	Works – morphology improvements	
Pow Burn	Esk Rivers and Fisheries Trust	£213,875.06	Works – morphology improvements	Phase one of works on the Pow Burn directly improved 400m of river with and additional 3km planned for Phase 2 in 2017. This will move the water body from bad to poor status.
Nith – Upper Nith	SEPA	£5,010.00	Landowner engagement – morphology improvements	The 6.1 km restoration project is part of SEPA's pilot catchment project which is a strategic catchment scale approach to restore watercourses bringing about improvements for morphology and natural flood management. Future works are expected to improve the water body from poor to good.
Nith – Upper Nith	Nith DSFB	£90,578.58	Design – morphology	

			improvements	
Nith – Upper Nith	Tweed Forum	£58,890.00	Ground Investigation – morphology improvements	
Nith – Upper Nith	Tweed Forum	£1,000.000.00	Works– morphology improvements	
Nith – Scar Water	SEPA	£106,088.40	Design – morphology improvements	<p>The restoration project was part of SEPA’s pilot catchment project which is a strategic catchment scale approach to restore watercourses bringing about improvements for morphology and natural flood management.</p> <p>Detailed design of 6.4Km of the River Nith and Scar Water completed to improve ecological status of the Scar Water from Bad to Poor and to achieve Natural Flood Management through increased flood plain storage.</p> <p>We have used a break clause in the contract to pause the project prior to works, this is in line with the reprioritisation of physical condition improvement projects. However SEPA have agreed to fund a SRDP application in 2018/19.</p>
Laggan Burn	Nith DSFB	£66,730.24	Design – morphology improvements	<p>Detailed design of 3.21Km of the Laggan Burn for environmental improvement of morphological condition and poor to moderate ecological status. The other objective to achieve Natural Flood Management through increased flood plain storage. We have used a break clause in the contract to pause the project during design this in line with the reprioritisation of physical condition improvement projects.</p>
Other works				
Tweed INNS	Tweed Forum	£9,422.05	INNS control	<p>WEF monies add to a fund created from a variety of sources.</p> <p>All watercourses with presence of Giant Hogweed have been surveyed and controlled where appropriate: Tweed, Leet, Whiteadder, Till, Teviot, Ale, Eye and Gala. New occurrences out with known patches have been located – especially at the top of the Gala. This is potentially linked to re-instated train activity through large scale infestation in the Forth area to the north of the Tweed catchment. Overall approximately 70,000 km² has been treated. All watercourses infected with Japanese knotweed have been treated (Tweed, Whiteadder, Till, Teviot, Ale, Ettrick, Yarrow, Lyne, Eye, Leithen, Eddleston) - approximately 20,000 km² has been treated. No</p>

				Himalayan Balsam control has been attempted as results of CABI rust trial have proved promising. Tweed Forum have played an important role in SEPA-lead awareness raising for aquatic threats for SNH and Council staff (picked up by national INNS week publicity). Some work with skunk cabbage has started – liaison with SNH is underway. Main risk identified is lack of continued support from funding partners – WEF being one of these.
Forth INNS	River Forth Fisheries Trust	£8,000.00	INNS control	Giant Hogweed treatment on the Allan Water, River Almond, Gogar Burn, Kilconquhar burn, River Teith, Water of Leith and the River Tyne by volunteers. Contractor/Trust spraying River Carron and its tributary Bonnywater/Red burn - overall approximately 200,000 km ² treated. Japanese knotweed treatment on River Almond, Brox burn, River Avon, River Forth, River Teith, Water of Leith and Allan Water by volunteers. Contractor/Trust spraying River Carron and its tributary Bonnywater/Red burn. Overall approximately 54, 000 km ² treated. No Himalayan Balsam treatment attempted – licence for rust trials requested from SNH Midlothian area. They have overcome challenges - changes in the law on licenced use of pesticide, piecemeal funding and a high turnover of volunteers has led them to prioritise their work. The main issue is flagged as continued funding, no further future funding from SNH, LLTNP or WEF.
Glazert Ecocolife	SEPA	£8,489.25	Resource support	This project has mainly been paused during 2017/18 due to joint funding to be arranged by the East Dunbartonshire Council. SEPA are still waiting on a decision. Ecoco life resource was used for alternative sites scoping which has resulted in the Ecoco life funding and project officer time moving to Knowes Weir In October 2017.
Compensation	Carcary Farms	£774.60	Land compensation	
Compensation	South Esk Farms	£3,335.06	Land compensation	
TOTAL		£3,318,285.99		

