

Projects funded under the Strategic Strand of the Environment Fund 2019-2023

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.



Grant recipient	Project title	Summary of Strategic Strand project
Mourne Heritage Trust	Mourne AONB management and enhancement	Provision of conservation, environmental and visitor management functions and coordination across the Mourne AONB.
Outdoor Recreation NI	Enjoying our Environment through Outdoor Recreation	Delivery of actions to progress delivery of strategic outdoor recreation objectives contained within the Outdoor Recreation Action Plan and strategic planning for the future of outdoor recreation in NI.
NI Environment Link	Collaboration for Environmental Impact	Development of networking, facilitation, co-ordination and partnership development for eNGOs responsible for the management, protection & promotion of the environment.
Keep NI Beautiful	Keeping Northern Ireland Beautiful	Delivery of NI wide programmes such as Eco-Schools and Live Here Love Here to inspire and enable people across NI to create cleaner, greener, more sustainable & healthy communities through environmental action & behaviour change.
Buglife	Building action for Northern Ireland's invertebrates	To deliver projects to support DAERA in meeting its priorities and building on the capacity of Buglife and others to deliver invertebrate conservation across NI.
Centre of Environmental Data & Recording (CEDaR)	CEDaR Species Surveillance Officer	To deliver increase the evidence base to address statutory obligations within surveillance, developing further key partnerships and networking opportunities to determine future priorities.
British Trust for Ornithology	BTO Environmental Evidence Support in Northern Ireland	To deliver essential evidence that underpins environmental priority decision making in NI by sustaining the large scale bird monitoring surveys that are managed by the BTO (most in partnership with others), in both the marine and terrestrial environments on a NI-wide scale.
National Trust	Implementation of the NT Strangford Lough and Outer Ards Conservation Action Plans	This project will enable the implementation of the conservation action plans produced for NT properties within the Strangford Lough SAC/SPA/ASSI and Outer Ards SPA/ASSI.
NI Raptor Study Group	Safe-Guarding and Surveillance of Northern Ireland's Birds of Prey	Data collection, collation, standardisation, analysis & delivery of essential evidence that underpins decision making, management & statutory responsibilities, to protect NI's birds of prey.

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Ulster Wildlife	Environmental Net Gain	The project has four strands of activity to deliver significant environmental net gain across NI on designated sites and Priority Habitats and species action for NI Priority Species - Red Squirrel, Pine Marten and Barn Owl. Provision of key data to inform management of protected sites, protected species in the marine environment. Provision of sustainable access across three sites of nature conservation and outdoor recreation importance - Bog Meadows, Slievenacloy and Straidkilly.
Newry Mourne and Down DC	The Ring of Gullion AONB and Strangford Lough & Lecale AONB Action Plans	To implement key environmental outcomes identified designated sites Management Action Plans (MAPs) for the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
Butterfly Conservation	Lepidoptera in Our Landscapes - Phase 3 (LIOL3)	To halt the decline of butterflies and moths through targeted conservation action underpinned by robust scientific evidence.
The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)	Habitat management on the North Coast, South Sperrins & County Antrim	To support practical habitat management work on a network of sites across the north coast, County Tyrone and the shores of Lough Neagh.
Lough Neagh Partnership (LNP)	Lough Neagh SPA/ASSI Protection	To co-ordinate and implement 3 main projects to improve the favourable status of Lough Neagh SPA and ASSI.
Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust	Conserving the Causeway Coast and Glens	The project will deliver national, regional and international commitments relating to the on-going management of the Giant's Causeway and Causeway Coast WHS and the 3 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) in the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
RSPB	Delivering targeted environmental outcomes through landscapes and people	Ongoing management and monitoring of our designated sites across NI and strategic environmental engagement with communities for sustainable action.
Belfast Hills Partnership	Belfast Hills Partnership (BHP) Programme	To coordinate and work in partnership to deliver the key work elements within the Belfast Hills Partnership Integrated Management Plan 2018-23 and associated Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) and Invasives Species Action Plan relating to the biodiversity, landscape and communities in and around the Belfast Hills.

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Woodland Trust	A landscape rich in native trees and woodland for wildlife and people	<p>This project has two key aims:</p> <p>1) We will use our estate as a demonstrator of best practice for the management of ancient / long established woodland and actively encourage and show the owners of privately owned woodland how they might deal with the restoration of Planted Ancient Woodland sites in order to maximise the gain in these vast biodiversity reservoirs.</p> <p>2) Encouraging a greater support for the creation of new native woodland.</p>
Bat Conservation Ireland	Irish Bat Monitoring Programme (IBMP)	Coordination and delivery within NI of the Irish Bat Monitoring Programme – a long-term all-Ireland bat monitoring scheme that contains four separate surveys.
Ballinderry Rivers Trust	Ballinderry River LINC Project (Landscape-scale Initiatives for Nature Conservation)	Delivery of key catchment-scale actions, identified in the draft Ballinderry River SAC/ASSI Protected Area Conservation Management Plan that will increase the percentage of SAC under favourable conservation management; as well as addressing Water Framework Directive (WFD) single failing elements in selected sub-catchments of the SAC.
Beltrim Charitable Trust	Altarichard Wildlife and Nature Project	Altarichard nature and wildlife project.
Lagan Valley Regional Park	Natural Resource Enhancement and Management	Management of Priority Habitats within LVRP.
Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon BC	Restoration of Fen and Marsh Fritillary Habitat at Brackagh Bog	Habitat works and management to improve the Marsh Fritillary (priority species) site at Brackagh Bog.
Irish Brent Goose Research Group	Ecology of priority waterbird species across the NI estuarine protected sites network	Survey and monitoring to provide an understanding of the movements of waterbird species within priority sites and nearby terrestrial habitats and/or connection to other estuarine sites.



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