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2007-13 Case Studies

"Forth Invasive Non-Native Species"



Applicant

Forth Fisheries Trust

Contributions

Total Project Cost: £345,559

Tyneesk LEADER: £36,962 (11%)

Project Duration

January 2012 to December 2013

Project Aims

- Recruit a project co-ordinator and field officer
- Recruit and train volunteers to recognise, treat according to latest scientific advice, and monitor Invasive Non-native Species (INNS)
- Promote the programme and volunteer opportunities, including INNS educational presentations in secondary schools
- Establish a network of trained volunteers to monitor, capture data and report on central INNS database
- Produce interim report to inform the second phase of the project

Project Detail

This project sought to address the invasion of non-native species through the Forth estuary and its tributaries - in all 11 covering Local Authority areas and gained funding from four different LEADER areas. This strategic approach was aimed to achieve long term results in controlling certain species over a long period. The primary species to be addressed were Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed over the whole project area. American mink were also be controlled in a smaller geographic area.

Results

The project was very successful in terms of treating a number of invasive non-native species throughout the forth catchment area for a period of two years. However, it was also very successful in gathering volunteers together and training those volunteers in how to treat invasive non-native species.

It is this long term sustainable approach that is key to this project as eradicating non-native invasive species takes many years. Involving volunteers in the activity is crucial to treating them over a long period and the outcomes of the project are ongoing.



Scottish Rural
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