



# Scottish Freshwater Group

## Action Team on Citizen Science

**Our goal is to connect many more community citizen scientists with freshwater research and decision-making**





# Citizen Science and Scottish Freshwater Group

- Citizen science has much more to offer to **freshwater management, research and community engagement** in Scotland
- SFG can play a **pivotal role in facilitating connections**







SFG can help these motivated citizen scientists realise their potential!

- Providing an **information hub**
- A **platform for their ideas** and projects
- **Access** to scientists and decision-makers
- Reaching **new communities of volunteers**



# SFG Scottish Freshwater Citizen Science Hub

- The **Gateway** for all Scottish Freshwater Citizen Science
- Projects in **one place**
- **Data** on rivers and lochs – **access for open use**
- **Forum to connect** research/policy with the volunteer community
- A **platform for community-led** citizen science
- **New engagement opportunities** – business, public, schools
- **Resources** – toolkits, education, funding





# Freshwater Citizen Science Hub

## Scottish Environment Web

Scottish Environment Web

Get Involved

Scottish Freshwater Hub

Scotland's environment

Search Scotland's environment web

GO

Our environment - Maps - Data - Get Involved - Educational resources - News - About us

Welcome to the Citizen Science Scottish Freshwater Hub. This is the place to find out everything you want to know, and how to get involved in, citizen science projects in Scottish rivers, lochs and wetlands.

Topic sections

About this hub Maps & Data Partners Social Media

About this Freshwater hub

Scottish Freshwater Group

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Our natural environment is precious to all of us. When it is in a good state it keeps us healthy, both physically and mentally. Most of us want to do our part to keep our environment in good condition and to restore it where it has deteriorated through man-made impacts. Citizen science is a fantastic opportunity for individuals, communities and businesses to do just that. Engaging in citizen science leads to a whole new world of interesting things to do, and people to meet that enables anyone to make really valuable contributions to improving or protecting our rivers, lochs and wetlands.

If you have a citizen science project related to Scottish rivers, lochs or wetlands you would like to list in this hub please Email: [rogerowen2806@gmail.com](mailto:rogerowen2806@gmail.com)

On these pages can be found information on the many current volunteer projects in Scotland and how you can help, access to observations and data any of the projects have made available, educational resources, and links to a wide range of environmental information related to Scottish freshwaters.

Scottish Freshwater Hub

- Bloomin' Algae
- Northern February Red Stonefly
- Rainfall Observers Network
- Riverfly on the Esk
- SmartRivers
- Water scarcity

Pages we suggest

- Reporting Invasive Species
  - Report Invasive non-native species (INNS)
- Citizen Science Mobile apps
  - Mobile apps - Data
- Value, status and management
  - Our environment - Scotland's freshwater
  - Our environment - Ecosystem Health Indicator
  - Our environment - Landscape-scale conservation
  - Scotland's environment map
  - Data analysis - Water classification hub
  - Data analysis - Water environment hub
  - Data analysis - Scottish Pollution Release Inventory
  - Data analysis - Bathing waters
- The importance and benefits of wetlands habitats
  - Our environment - Wetlands
- Scotland's Biodiversity
  - Our environment - Plants and animals
- Climate change in Scotland
  - Our environment - Climate change
  - Met Office - Weather and climate data
  - Data analysis - Climate trends
- The Volunteering Community
  - The Conservation Volunteers
- Guidance on Initiating Citizen Science and Educational Resources
  - Get Involved - Useful resources
  - Get Learning - Water
- Blog
  - Scotland becoming a resilient hydro nation



# Freshwater Citizen Science Projects



https://www.environment.gov.scot/get-involved/scottish-freshwater-hub/

Scotland's environment


Search Scotland's environment with  GO

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## Scottish Freshwater Hub


The Scottish Freshwater Hub has so much potential to make a difference to how citizen science and volunteers contribute to addressing environmental problems. [Find out more about this hub.](#)

Home - Get Involved - Scottish Freshwater Hub




### More about this hub

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### Bloomin' Algae

Bloomin' Algae is a citizen science app that encourages the public and water-related businesses to report the presence of harmful blooms of blue-green algae in freshwaters.




### Northern February Red Stonefly

Every February Buglife launches its citizen science project The Hunt for the Northern February Red. The Northern February red stonefly (*Brachyptera putata*) has its global stronghold in the Scottish Highlands.




### Rainfall Observers Network

Rainfall observing is an interesting and valuable hobby that assists SEPA and the Met Office capture Scotland's complex rainfall patterns.



### Riverfly on the Esk

Riverfly on the Esk is a citizen science project located on the River Esk in Midlothian. It joins a nationwide network of Riverfly Partnership groups across the UK, monitoring freshwater invertebrates as indicators of river health.



### Water scarcity

Help SEPA to assess water scarcity stress and forecast, monitor and report of the situation facing Scotland's water resources.

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## Topic sections

[About this hub](#)
[Maps & Data](#)
[Partners](#)
[Social Media](#)

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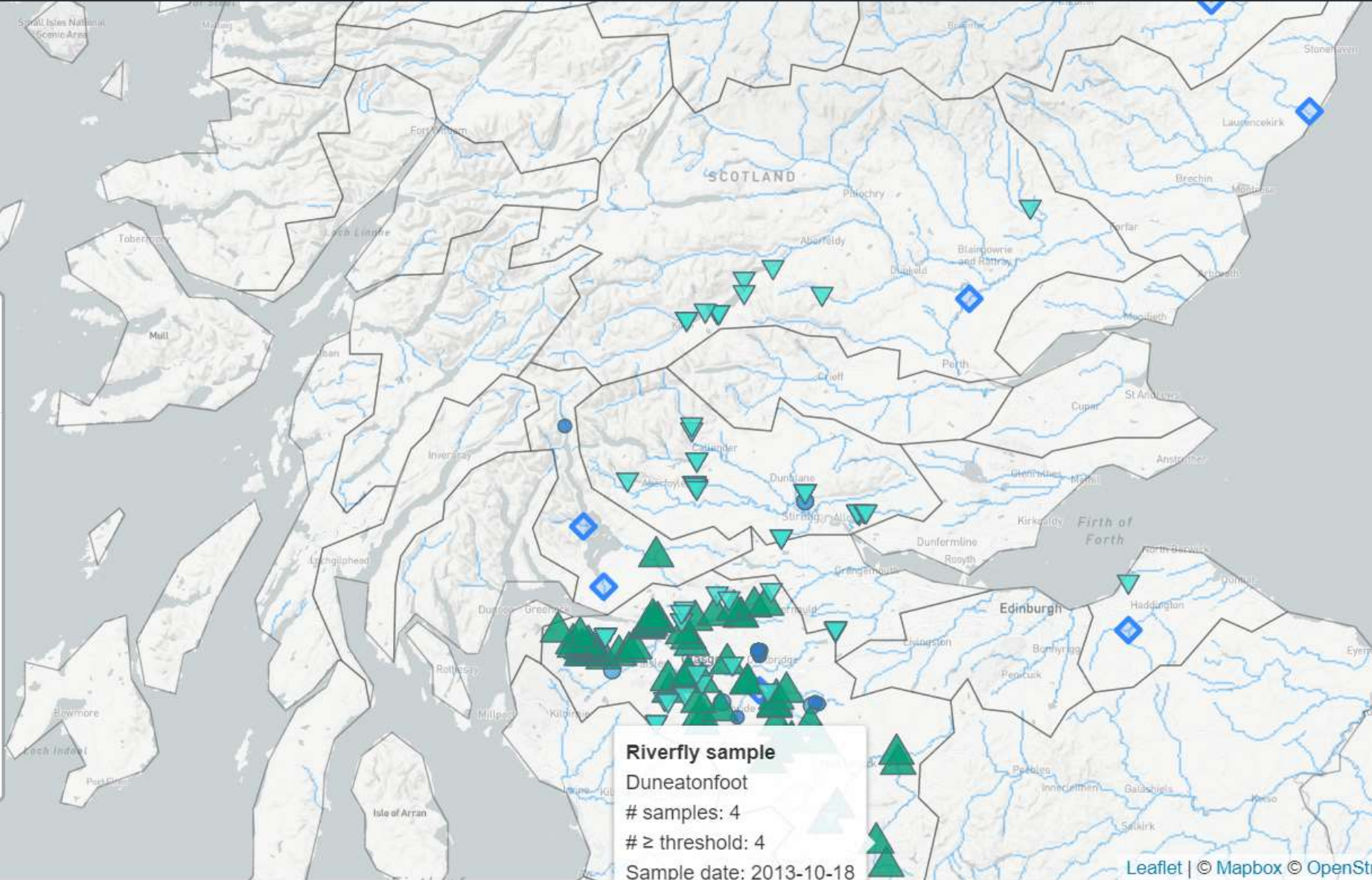
Light map  
 Satellite  
 Streets

**Datasets**

BA  
 F.W.M.  
 N.R.E.A.  
 R.F.P.

River classifications  
 Loch classifications  
 Obstacles to Fish Migration  
 Water monitoring points

30 km  
20 mi



**Riverfly sample**  
 Duneatonfoot  
 # samples: 4  
 #  $\geq$  threshold: 4  
 Sample date: 2013-10-18





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## Water scarcity

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## More about this hub

[Home](#) / [Get involved](#) / [Scottish Freshwater Hub](#) / [More about this hub](#)

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Citizen Science

Edit

## Freshwater Citizen Science

Private group · 29 members



Joined

+ Invite

About Discussion Featured Rooms Topics Members Events Media



Write something...



Live video



Photo/video



Room

### About

The Scottish Freshwater Group promotes collaboration on issues related to our precious freshwater environment. The Group is a network of around ... See more

Private



vodafone UK 09:00 91%

Freshwater Citizen S...



Roger Owen shared a link.

Admin 11 Mar ·

Buglife Scotland are inviting citizen scientists to look out for Northern February Red stonefly in February and March. It's a really worthwhile thing to do!

### Help us find the Northern February red

The Northern February red stonefly (*Brachyptera putata*) is found only in Scottish rivers. We need your help to map which rivers it lives in. It's easy to get involved by following the three steps below:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Step 1</b><br>Look at fenceposts alongside the river in February and March to see if they have stoneflies on them. | <b>Step 2</b><br>Take a picture of the stoneflies on the post. | <b>Step 3</b><br>Send your photographs to: <a href="mailto:scotland@buglife.org.uk">scotland@buglife.org.uk</a><br>Please use the subject 'STONEFLY' and include the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Your name</li><li>Photograph date</li><li>River name</li><li>Location (grid reference if possible)</li></ul> You can also tweet your photos and |
|---|--|---|



TWITTER.COM

BuglifeScotland on Twitter

2

Seen by 15

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Rebecca Lewis shared a link.

Admin 24 Feb ·



Home



Watch



Marketplace



Groups



Notifications



Menu



**Promoting collaboration on issues related to the freshwater environment – one of Scotland’s most precious natural resources**

**A network of ~350 members. Connecting:**

**Researchers - policy-makers - regulators - communities**

**Students - resource managers - consultants - citizen scientists**

<https://www.ceh.ac.uk/scottish-freshwater-group>





# Innovating in Freshwater Citizen Science

Climate Change (Net-Zero, Temperature Observations, Species Range Changes,.....)

Crowd-funding Citizen Science

Mobilising Communities towards Environmental Stewardship

# What SFG members can do to help



## Scottish Freshwater Hub

<https://www.environment.gov.scot/get-involved/scottish-freshwater-hub/>

- **Point to current projects** to include
- **Submit** freely accessible **citizen science/environmental data**
- **Suggest useful content/resources** for citizen scientists

## FaceBook Group: **Freshwater Citizen Science**

- **Point to useful opportunities** (training, resources, funding, advice)
- Suggest **project ideas**
- **Connect** with the **volunteer community**



# Want to help Freshwater Citizen Science in Scotland?

Contact:

Roger Owen at: [rogerowen2806@gmail.com](mailto:rogerowen2806@gmail.com)

