

A large, stylized blue letter 'S' composed of two overlapping, flowing brushstrokes. The top stroke is a darker blue and the bottom stroke is a lighter blue, creating a sense of movement and depth.

SFG Reflections

# Thank You!



- Bob Ferrier & the Hydro Nation Scholars Programme for support with special thanks to: Rita Noelle Moussa, Julze Alejandre & Kerr Adams for superb behind-the-scenes preparation & efforts today
- All of our speakers, poster presenters & Action Team projects for excellent SFG agenda contributions
- UK CEH for virtual hosting, providing technical support & website maintenance: Laurence Carvalho, Emma Brodie & Paulette Burns
- SFG membership for inspiring work you do in & around freshwaters & previous SFG Coordinators for continued support
- SFG Team voluntary commitments for supporting SFG's purpose & people across our SFG community in challenging times

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SFG Announcements

# SFG Transition: quick membership update

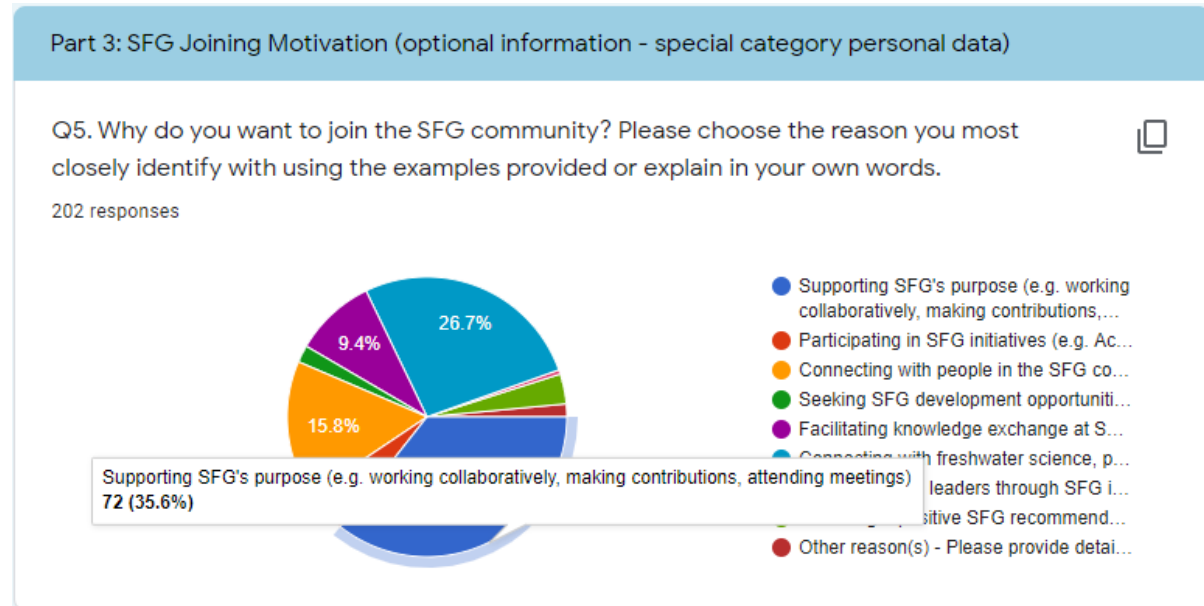


- Crucial recovery work led by SFG Team to restore communication & rebuild our thriving membership ahead of [#HNSFG104](#) event
  - Not planned but taken opportunity to respond & bounce forward for long-term SFG benefits
- Over 200 members (re)joined within several weeks of SFG transition
  - Many thanks for your support with signing up & promoting SFG on your professional networks
  - Initial SFG membership uptake positive & numbers comparable to Autumn 2016 baseline
  - Though SFG community composition is changed & currently shifting on weekly basis
- Encouraging many people from various parts of water sector making conscious decision to onboard & contribute to SFG community
  - Still early days with notable gaps in freshwater landscape but interesting that ~25% of recent connections to SFG community entirely new names and/or organisations – welcome onboard!
  - Continued work in progress – some targeted efforts by SFG Team in coming weeks to months
  - Will settle & organically pick up new SFG members – evolved through time for 50+ years

# SFG Transition: early collective insights



- We recognise & respect the various joining motivations for connecting with our SFG community
  - SFG Team will do our best to meet individual/collective needs & assess changes moving forward
  - Great examples of SFG initiatives for a range of palates & approachable for 1:1 considerations
- Explore collective insights at SFG Autumn 2021 meeting & beyond





*“Great network of people to learn about Scotland's freshwaters (and further afield) and to contribute to their sustainable management”*

*“Being connected to a community of like-minded people who not only want to see positive change in the freshwater environment but are willing to make change.”*

*“SFG enables collaboration, shared purpose and networking.”*

*“It means being part of the bigger picture in the freshwater community, and being able to be connected with other professionals who have completely different perspectives from my own, and widening my knowledge base.”*

*“A wonderful community, going in great direction!”*

# SFG Action Teams (ATs):

## getting more involved

- SFG's AT projects are innovative community-led initiatives which harness membership capabilities for overcoming planetary crises & connecting people with the value of freshwaters
- All four AT projects ongoing; capacities affected by pandemic in different ways – great updates today & important work happening in background. Thank you!
- Interested SFG members can contact AT leads from SFG website:
  - AT #1 Sustainable Minds ([Kerr Adams](#))
  - AT #2 Freshwater Citizen Science ([Roger Owen](#))
  - AT #3 Innovation Hub ([Claire Neil](#))
  - AT #4 Climate Change ([Heather Anderson](#))

# SFG Action Teams (ATs):

## the future pipeline



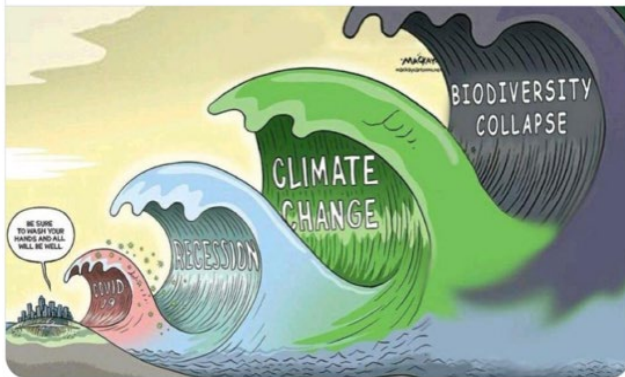
Pauline Lang  
@Dr\_LangP

Wow. Powerful visualisation of the tsunami of systemic challenges beyond #COVID-19. This situation calls for effective & combined #leadership action to turn the tide!



Svein T veitdal @tveitdal · 02/07/2020

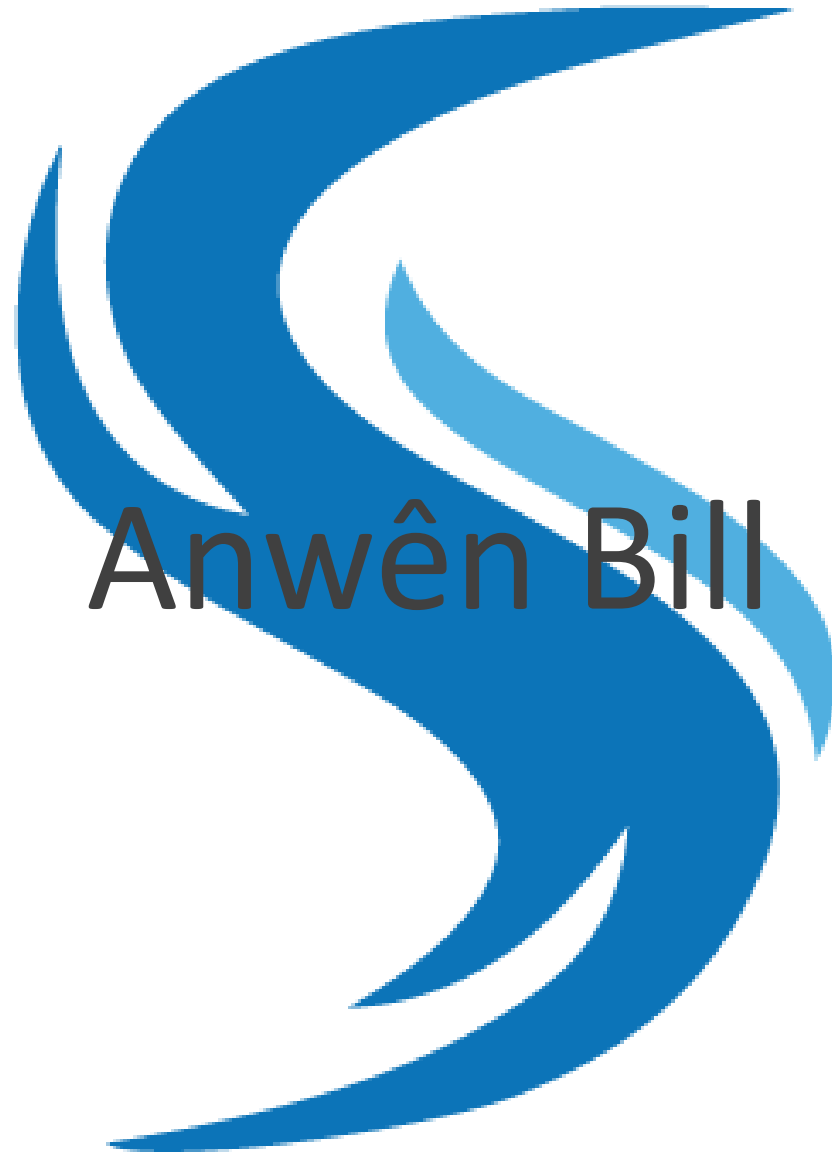
Climate and Nature cartoon of the day: Wash Your hands! @mackaycartoons



**More responsive AT projects on horizon...**

**Call for our members to help influence SFG's forward-looking priority actions phased in from 2021/22 onwards!**





Anwên Bill

# FW Biodiversity Decline



## Emerging threats and persistent conservation challenges for freshwater biodiversity

Andrea J. Reid<sup>1\*</sup>, Andrew K. Carlson<sup>2</sup>, Irena F. Creed<sup>3</sup>, Erika J. Eliason<sup>4</sup>, Peter A. Gell<sup>5</sup>, Pieter T.J. Johnson<sup>6</sup>, Karen A. Kidd<sup>7</sup>, Tyson J. MacCormack<sup>8</sup>,

*Freshwater crisis!*

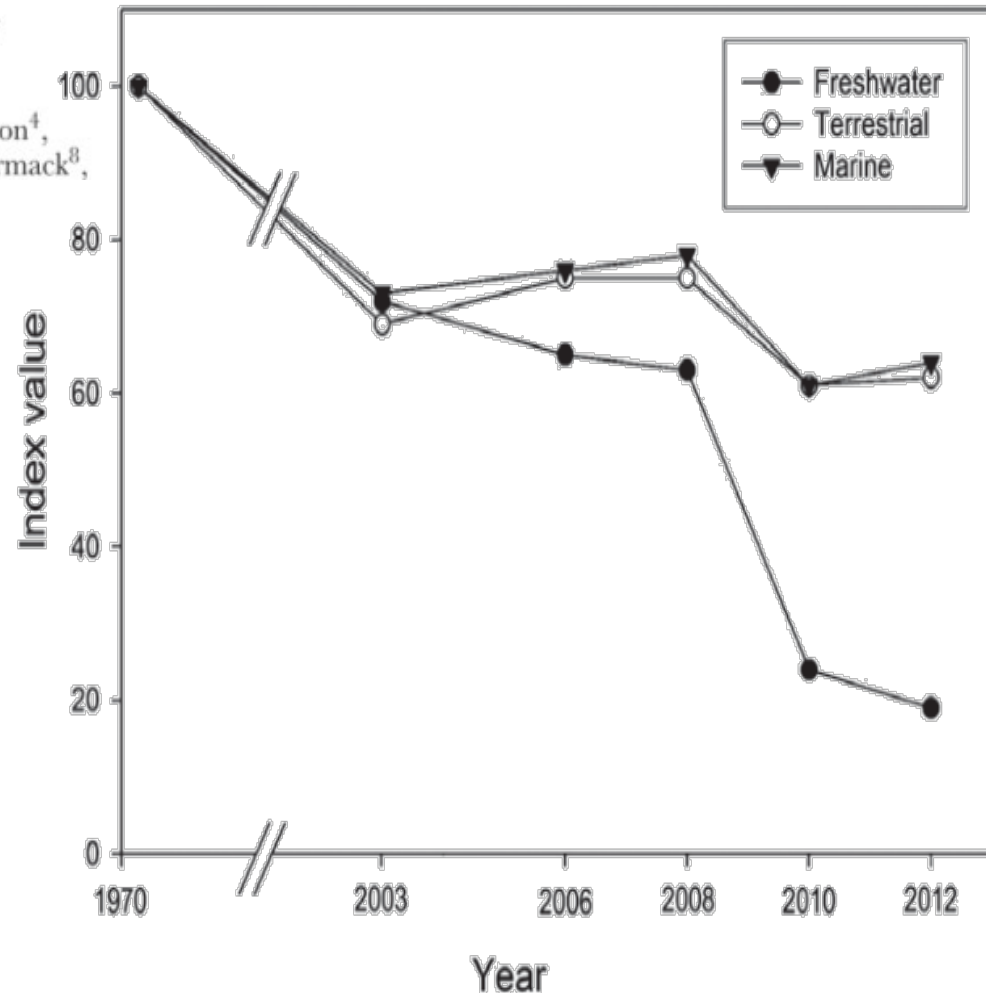
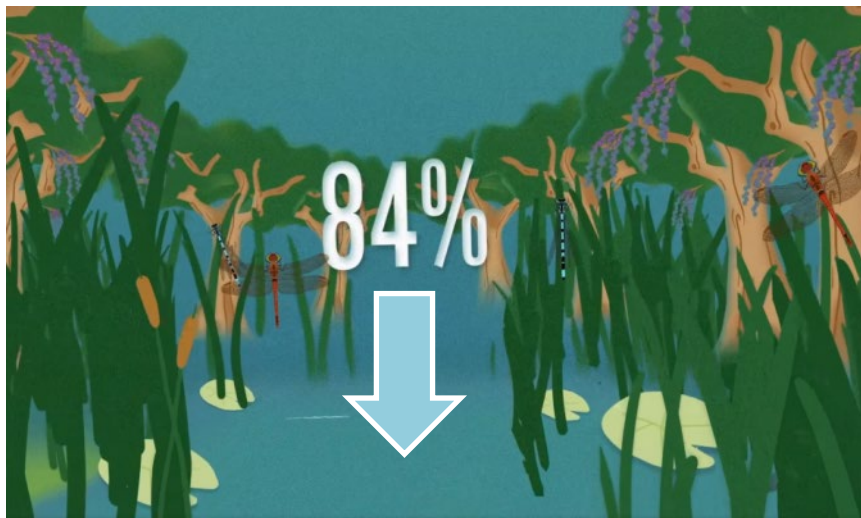


Figure – adapted from WWF, Living Planet report (2020) <https://livingplanet.panda.org/en-gb/>

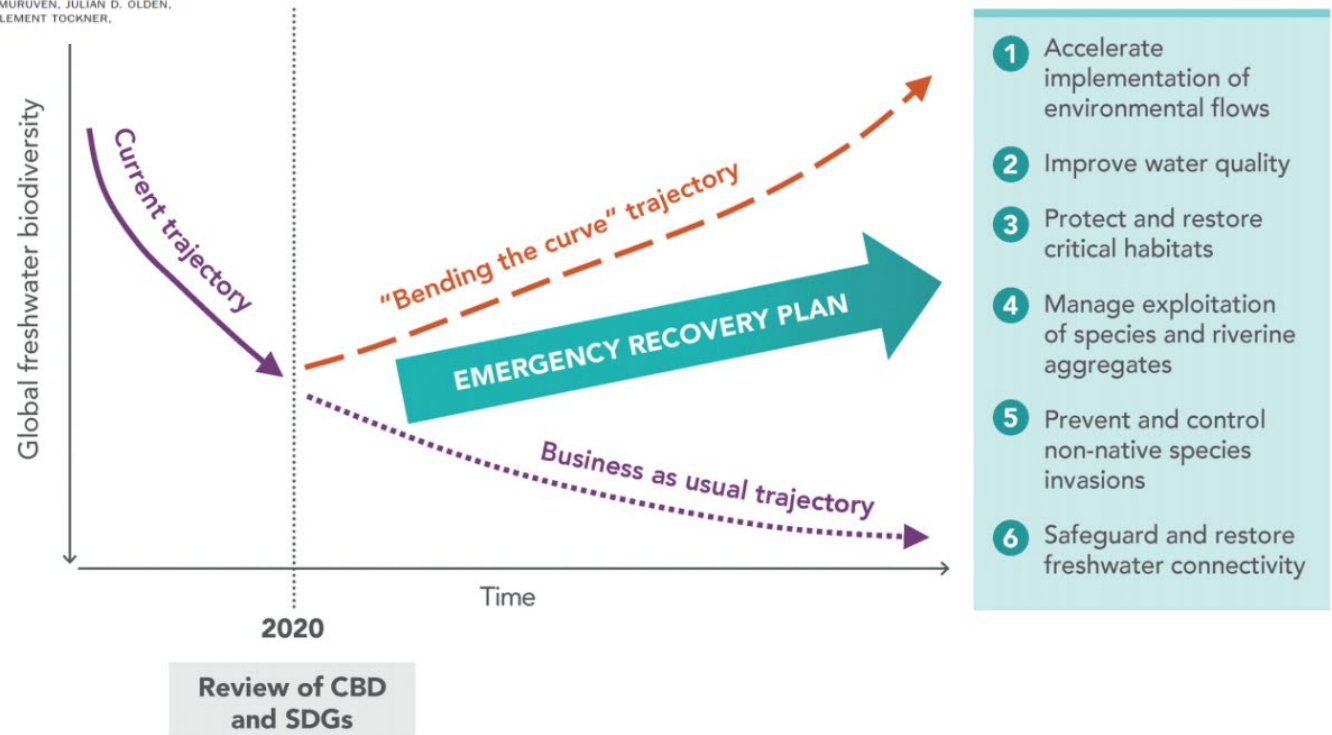
Figure – Reid et al., (2019) *Biological Reviews*. 94 (3), 849-873.

# Emergency Recovery Plan

Forum

## Bending the Curve of Global Freshwater Biodiversity Loss: An Emergency Recovery Plan

DAVID TICKNER, JEFFREY J. OPPERMAN, ROBIN ABELL, MIKE ACREMAN, ANGELA H. ARTHINGTON, STUART E. BUNN, STEVEN J. COOKE, JAMES DALTON, WILL DARWALL, GAVIN EDWARDS, IAN HARRISON, KATHY HUGHES, TIM JONES, DAVID LECLÈRE, ABIGAIL J. LYNCH, PHILIP LEONARD, MICHAEL E. MCCLAIN, DEAN MURUVEN, JULIAN D. OLDEN, STEVE J. ORMEROD, JAMES ROBINSON, REBECCA E. THARME, MICHELE THIEME, KLEMENT TOCKNER, MARK WRIGHT, AND LUCY YOUNG



*Figure 2. The Emergency Recovery Plan for freshwater biodiversity: Six priority actions for global action to bend the curve of freshwater biodiversity loss that should be reflected in the post-2020 biodiversity framework. Threats to freshwater biodiversity are often synergistic so coherent planning of interacting priority actions to address such threats is necessary.*

# Tipping favourably



Conservation Letters

A Journal of the Society for Conservation Biology

Open Access

REVIEW | Open Access |

## Safeguarding freshwater life beyond 2020: Recommendations for the new global biodiversity framework from the European experience

Charles B. van Rees , Kerry A. Waylen, Astrid Schmidt-Kloiber, Stephen J. Thackeray, Gregor Kalinkat, Koen Martens, Sami Domisch, Ana I. Lillebø, Virgilio Hermoso, Hans-Peter Grossart ... [See all authors](#) ▾

- Applying 14 special recommendations based on the successes and setbacks of EU policy, management and research
- Aspirations to **halt and reverse** the rapid global decline of freshwater biodiversity



Figure –  
van Rees et al., (2020) Conservation Letters.  
<https://conbio.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/conl.12771>

# What we *can* do



- No one person can solve the planetary challenges we face
- We believe our members are capable of problem solving major challenges in freshwater ecosystems – collectively
- We aspire to:
  - harness the strengths across our community
  - mobilise one or more projects focussed on **halting & reversing** freshwater biodiversity decline
  - seek your input on scoping what SFG’s approach might look like
- The implications of which will be far reaching...  
***“Measures to address one cause of biodiversity loss can, in many contexts, help address other causes too” – Tickner et al., (2020)***

# What we *have* done



- Led a [new, quick and important membership survey](#) about tackling freshwater biodiversity decline & other environmental challenges
- Had a quick look/see at this survey data
  - ~40 insightful SFG responses received & retained for future use
  - Contacted our SFG volunteers for starting up [AT #5](#) project(s)
  - Given a heads up to existing AT leads to engage with & learn from existing SFG work: apply to initial [AT #5](#) project scoping & development process
- How much capacity we've had to do more by this point has been strongly influenced by SFG Team situational responses:
  - (1) **CHALLENGE** of prioritising crucial SFG recovery work amid lockdown restrictions & our personal circumstances
  - (2) **OPPORTUNITY** to consider changes in SFG community composition with ~25% of onboarding members unlikely to be aware of this important SFG initiative until now



Opportunity for influencing SFG  
Community Responses to Freshwater  
Biodiversity Decline and Other  
Environmental Challenges

# AT #5 Poll Question



- Decided to **re-run** this SFG Biodiversity survey for a brief window
  - SFG members\* will soon be notified by email; 30 June survey closing deadline & all feedback used to cultivate a pipeline of future SFG projects
  - Mindful of busy mailboxes & covid impacts so our SFG poll preferences\* question is:

**“Who are we best resharing this SFG Biodiversity survey link with: to maximise SFG community participation & impact?”**

- **CATCH EVERYONE AGAIN (~200 SFG members; including both re-joined & newly joined) for a final round of feedback** – benefit is everybody across the SFG community has equal opportunity to take part, contribute their voice & have collective impact

OR

- **CATCH NOMINATED PEOPLE (~50 SFG members; including only newly joined) who missed inputting first time round** – benefit is fresh perspectives amongst SFG community given earliest opportunity to take part, contribute their voice & have collective impact

# Our Next Steps



- **Online SFG membership survey will come out soon!**
  - **Qs mostly multiple choice & streamlined optional content**
    - Survey link communication based on poll \*preferences today
    - Requires <5 min min to participate & its collective outputs will influence how we progress with SFG's priority actions
    - Interested? Volunteer when completing the survey form or email [scottishfreshwatergroup@gmail.com](mailto:scottishfreshwatergroup@gmail.com)
  - **All membership survey data will be analysed by myself with support from SFG Team & the interpretation used to help**
    - Define AT #5 needs for halting & reversing fw biodiversity decline
    - SFG members shine a spotlight on other specific env issues
    - Inform & phase in SFG's future AT pipeline from 2021/22
  - **Another update will be provided at SFG Autumn 2021 event**




A stylized, flowing blue 'S' shape that curves and loops, resembling a ribbon or a calligraphic flourish. It is positioned in the background, partially behind the text.

Louise Lavictoire

# SFG Autumn 2021



## SFG 105<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> October

- **Valuing & protecting freshwaters: the role of science, policy & practice**
- **SFG Guest Coordinator: Louise Lavictoire (FBA)**
  - Continuity of a broad overarching theme with agenda slots **open to all SFG members** for contributions
  - Will include Action Team project updates & SFG announcements
- **Supported by the SFG Team & hosted on Zoom by UK CEH**
  - Wish to encourage diversity across agenda proceedings
  - Please contact [llavictoire@fba.org.uk](mailto:llavictoire@fba.org.uk) &  [@DrLouLavictoire](https://twitter.com/DrLouLavictoire)
  - Keen to start planning for offers of talks & poster presentations ASAP
- **Will go ahead as a virtual event; no U-turn planning decision**
  - Hoping for great SFG participation & turnout on the day!



**#SFG105**



Almost at the close...

# SFG Reminders



## Plenty opportunities for SFG member involvement

- SFG meetings, AT projects & Guest Coordinator roles
  - Volunteer as a session chair
  - Offer ideas for future meeting themes
  - Help SFG tackle twin crises with others through membership collaborations

## Continue to stay connected & add value in safe ways

- Ongoing AT projects, share suggestions & provide feedback
- Participate in SFG Team & AT project surveys throughout any year

## Can send examples of footage/photos from your work in & around freshwaters to [Martin Hughes](#)

- Collated for SFG community outputs & promotional purposes
- Fully credited & included in future SFG team communications

# Waterwall in Motion



## Launched at World Water Day 2021 event

- SFG is one of many Waterwall project collaborators across Scotland's water community
- Encourage all SFG members to engage & get creative with this new opportunity
- Submit short 2 min videos on a choice of 8 different competition categories
- Flexibility to get involved individually or as part of collaborative membership effort e.g. SFG Climate Action Team bitesize activity in lead up to COP26 event
- Check out the Waterwall poster or contact project lead [Rachel Helliwell](#) for more info!

The poster for 'WaterWall in Motion' is a colorful, multi-sectioned document. At the top, it features a row of icons representing various water-related themes: a water drop, a house, a gear, a lightbulb, a bar chart, a network, a globe, a leaf, and a group of people. Below the title 'WaterWall in Motion', it states 'Scotland a Hydro Nation: Uniting Communities Through Film'. The poster is supported by logos from various organizations including GCU, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, SAGES, Abertay University, The James Hutton Institute, Scottish Freshwater Group, NatureScot, CREW, SEFARI, Scottish Enterprise, and climateXchange. The main content is divided into four columns: 'Video Competition' (inviting the public to celebrate Scotland's water resources), 'Useful Information' (listing categories like Nature-based solutions, Droughts and Floods, Water quality, Living with climate change, Freshwater restoration, Innovation in the water sector, Water and wellbeing, and Water inspired creativity), 'Making a video' (providing guidelines on duration, orientation, and submission), and 'Join the WaterWall Community' (encouraging participation and listing key messages). A 'Remember to include' section lists: Name (and organisations, if relevant), Brief introduction, Key message, and Make a splash-make an impact! The poster also includes an 'Eligibility' section (professionals with an interest in water, research, innovation, creativity, adults only) and an 'Etiquette' section (no promotional material, permission for video use, no inappropriate content, site moderation). A 'Key Dates' table is provided: Launch of competition (22nd March 2021), Closing date for videos (12th August 2021), Decision on winning videos (31st August 2021), and Prize giving (2nd November 2021). At the bottom, it features logos for Scottish Government, Scottish Water, and the Scottish Government's 'Waterwall in Motion' initiative.

# SFG Connectivity



## Our SFG community is growing (again)!

- Membership is **free** & **multi-beneficial**
- Over **200 SFG members** have (re)joined & more on way
- Please complete the **SFG Membership Joining Form** to become part of our community & make future contributions
  - <https://forms.gle/3CXHocz7XFaiGSNVA>



Scottish Freshwater Group



@Scottish\_FwGrp

**Contact the SFG Team:** [scottishfreshwatergroup@gmail.com](mailto:scottishfreshwatergroup@gmail.com)

**SFG Website:** [www.ceh.ac.uk/scottish-freshwater-group](http://www.ceh.ac.uk/scottish-freshwater-group)





So thanks again,  
take good care &  
look forward to seeing  
everyone next time!