



Press Release: 5 February 2019

Local school children take part in the world's biggest schools' wildlife survey'

The RSPB's Big Schools' Birdwatch is currently taking place all over the UK. Pupils are encouraged to spend an hour watching and counting the birds in their school grounds and send their results to the RSPB, helping build a picture of trends in bird populations across the country.

With the support of the Flows to the Future Education Team, Lybster and Halkirk primary schools have been doing their bit for local birds by making feeders as well as doing the bird count.

The children discovered that birds are specially adapted for the environment they live in and come in all shapes and sizes.

Learning Development Officer, Hilary Wilson said:

'It has been wonderful working with so many enthusiastic children and helping them connect with the Flow Country by learning about birds in their local environment.'

The schools' visits and activities were provided as part of the [National Lottery Heritage Fund](#) supported Flows to the Future Project.

Schools have until 22nd February to take part in the Big Schools Birdwatch. Further information can be found at www.rspb.org.uk/schoolswatch



NOTES TO EDITORS

The Peatlands Partnership includes Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission Scotland and Council, RSPB Scotland, Plantlife Scotland, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, The Highland Third Sector Interface, The Flow Country Rivers Trust, The Northern Deer Management Group and The Environmental Research Institute. It is chaired by Professor Stuart Gibb from the Environmental Research Institute.

RSPB Scotland is the lead partner in The Flows to the Future project, a Peatlands Partnership project, which gratefully acknowledges funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and from the following funders and supporters; Environmental Research Institute, European Regional Development Fund, Forestry Commission (Scotland), Peatland Action, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, The Highland Council, RSPB, WREN, Scotland Rural Development Programme, Scottish Government, Scottish Natural Heritage and The Tubney Trust.

The RSPB is the UK's largest nature conservation charity, inspiring everyone to give nature a home. Together with their partners, they protect threatened birds and wildlife so our towns, coast and countryside will teem with life once again. The charity plays a leading role in BirdLife International, a worldwide partnership of nature conservation organisations.

Big Schools' Birdwatch is part of the RSPB's Giving Nature a Home campaign aimed at tackling the housing crisis facing the UK's threatened wildlife. The charity is asking people to provide a place for wildlife in their school grounds, own gardens and outside spaces – whether it's putting up a nest box for birds, creating a pond for frogs and toads or building a home for a hedgehog. You can create your own personal plan and give nature a home near you at www.rspb.org.uk/homes

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