

# Onshore wind and biodiversity – how to maximise the benefits for nature and climate

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**All energy 2023**

# Outline



- The nature / climate crises
- The new drivers
- The future – collaboration at landscape scale
- The benefits
- The sector deal



**NatureScot**  
**NàdarAlba**

Scotland's Nature Agency  
Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba

**“The next few decades represent a final opportunity to build a stable home for ourselves and restore the rich, healthy and wonderful world that we inherited from our distant ancestors. Our future on the planet...is at stake”**

**David Attenborough – “A life on our planet – my witness statement and a vision for the future””**

# The new drivers



NPF4 – positive effects for biodiversity

Nature positive agenda / TNFD

Green finance market – nature has new value !

Net zero

# The future – a collaborative approach at landscape scale



To address the twin crises we need to:

- Rapidly scale up nature restoration
- Squeeze every kg of carbon out of the atmosphere that we can
- Create better connectivity between habitats

**Developing with nature guidance:**

[www.nature.scot/professional-advice/planning-and-development/planning-and-development-advice/planning-and-development-enhancing-biodiversity](http://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/planning-and-development/planning-and-development-advice/planning-and-development-enhancing-biodiversity)



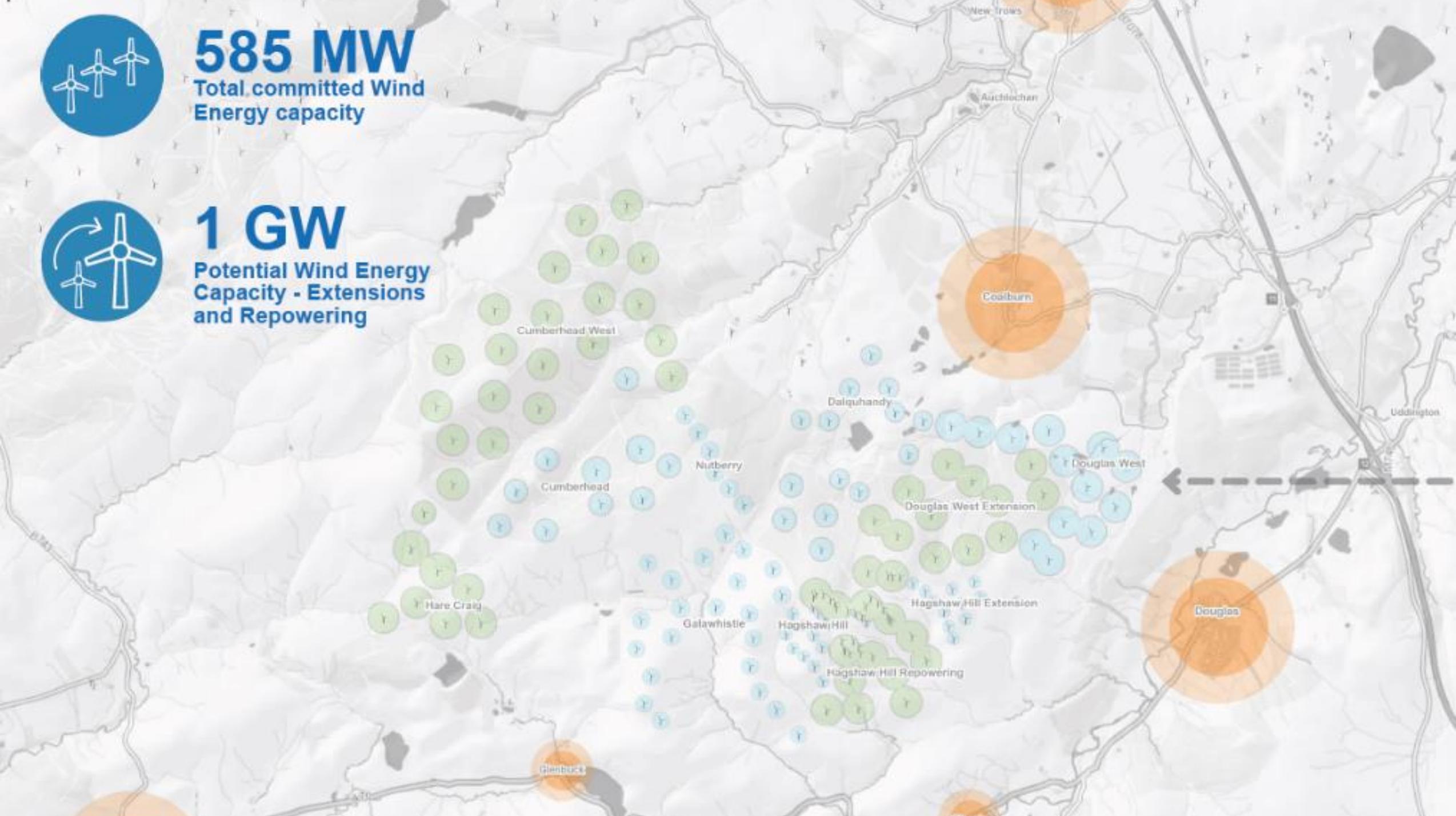
# 585 MW

Total committed Wind Energy capacity



# 1 GW

Potential Wind Energy Capacity - Extensions and Repowering



# Who is involved ?



**Architecture & Design Scotland**  
Ailtearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba



HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA

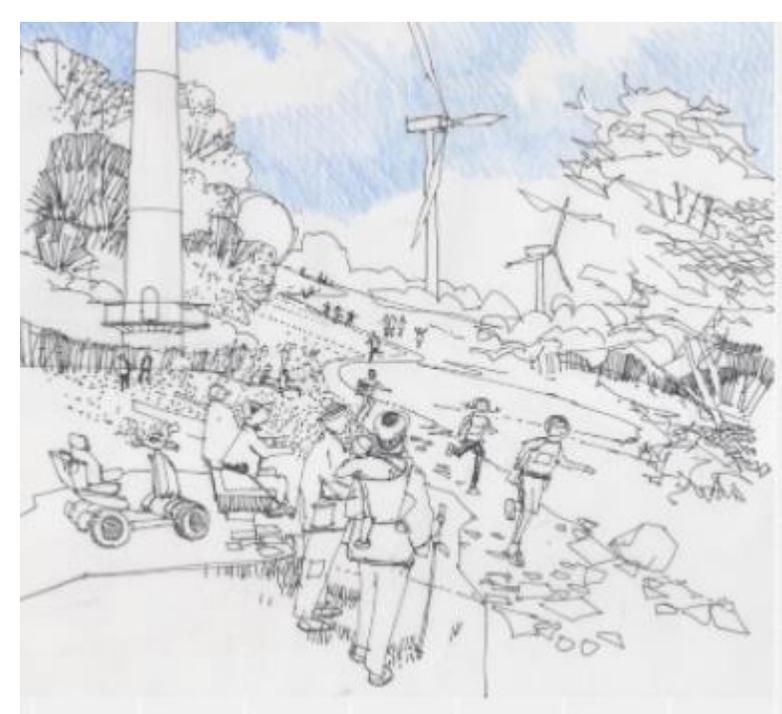


Scottish Environment Protection Agency  
Buidheann Dion Àrainneachd na h-Alba



octopus renewables  
A brighter way



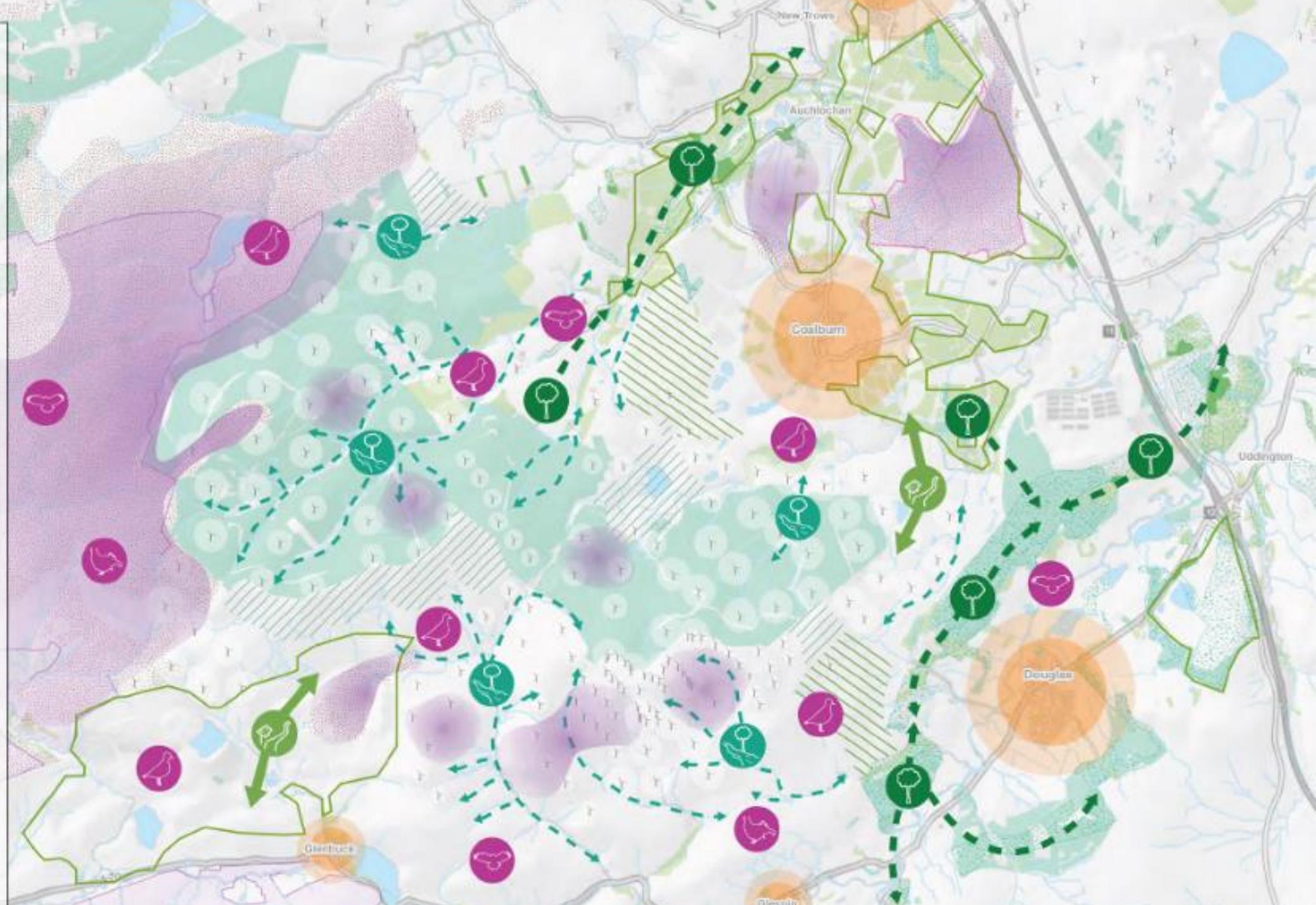


**Key**

- Key Settlements & Communities
- Wind Farms outside of the Hagshaw Energy Cluster
- Wind Farms within the Hagshaw Energy Cluster
- Site of Specific Scientific Interest and Special Protection Area
- Site of Specific Scientific Interest and Special Area of Conservation
- Coniferous Forest
- Broadleaved Woodland
- Mixed Woodland
- Ancient Woodland
- Category 1 Peatland
- Forestry and Land Scotland Sites
- Water Courses / Water Bodies

**Potential Nature Enhancement Opportunities**

- Opportunities for Peatland Restoration
- Opportunities for Riparian Woodland Corridors
- Ancient Woodland Network Enhancement
- Black Grouse Habitat Enhancement
- Raptor Habitat Enhancement
- Wading Bird Habitat Enhancement
- Access and Interpretation
- Potential Native Woodland Expansion



# The benefits for your sector



- Positive effects
- Carbon credits / Biodiversity credits
- Favourable planning environment
- A structured way to consider local trade offs between habitats and species

[www.thehagshawenergycluster.co.uk](http://www.thehagshawenergycluster.co.uk)

# The sector deal



- Opportunity to reset the approach to biodiversity
- Should aim for net gain
- Embed development frameworks in the approach
- Aim to adopt frameworks before 'round 2' – repowering - takes off

# What do I do next ?



- Speak to neighbouring wind farms
- Engage with planning authority
- Find some cash

Contact me at [Brendan.turvey@nature.scot](mailto:Brendan.turvey@nature.scot)



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**“In my life time, I’ve witnessed a terrible decline. In yours, you could and should witness a wonderful recovery”.**

**David Attenborough, COP26, Glasgow.**