



Nottinghamshire
Wildlife Trust



WONDERFUL ON TAP

**SPECIES
SURVIVAL
FUND**



Funded by
UK Government

Heritage
Fund

This project is funded by the Government's Species Survival Fund. The fund was developed by DEFRA and its arms length bodies. It is being delivered by National Heritage Lottery Fund in partnership with Natural England and the Environment Agency

Wilder Trent Landowner Grant Scheme

Purpose

The Wilder Trent Landowner Grant is delivered as part of the Thriving in a Wilder Trent Programme and is funded by the Species Survival Fund and Severn Trent.

The Thriving in a Wilder Trent Project is a £975,000 partnership project that aims to restore, protect and enhance priority floodplain habitats and associated species across 90km of the River Trent Catchment. Based on the Lawton principles of "bigger, better and more joined up" we will work to support nature's recovery and increase climate change resilience.

The grant scheme, which is managed by the Wilder Trent Project Officer, is a £100,000 fund that aims to engage, encourage and support local landowners and community groups to deliver improvements for nature on their land, offering small grants of £250 to £15,000 for suitable capital projects in the River Trent catchment.

Projects can include, but are not limited to:

- Hedgerow planting and hedgelaying
- Tree planting
- Woodland management
- Creation and management of natural grasslands
- Pond creation
- Reedbed creation and management
- Control of invasive species

It is a requirement that the habitat improved, restored or created should be maintained for a period of at least 10 years beyond the life of the project.

We will identify potential projects both through promotion of the grant through landowner engagement and targeting of priority areas.

Panel

While the grant will be lead by the Wilder Trent Project Officer, and overseen by the Wilder Trent Project Manager, we have created a panel from the project steering group so that we can maximize delivery and ensure a fair approach to assessing grant applications.

The group will work with the project team, supporting management and development of the scheme, identifying potential delivery areas and assessing projects/grant applications.

The Wilder Trent Landowner Grant panel includes:

- Wayne Ball (Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust)
- Katie Last (Derbyshire Wildlife Trust)
- Scott McKenzie (Trent Rivers Trust)

Selection Criteria

Applications for the grant scheme will be assessed according to the overarching objectives of the Thriving in a Wilder Trent project, ensuring that it delivers the required outputs for the project. The proposed projects should provide benefit to priority floodplain habitat on the River Trent within the defined project area, this includes a 2.5km buffer on either side of the River Trent and will consider high value projects on tributaries of the Trent.

The criteria for assessing grant applications and/or projects will therefore be based on the underlying principles of the project – “Bigger, Better and more joined up”. We would therefore be assessing the potential impact of the proposed project, the area benefitted and the location.

Bigger

Projects that increase the size of an existing priority habitat within the project area, increasing opportunities for species and increasing climate change resilience

Better

Projects that deliver habitat improvements for nature through management of existing wildlife sites and/or enhancement of sites to benefit nature.

More Joined Up

Project work on new sites that provide increased habitat connectivity across the River Trent Catchment, particularly where existing wildlife sites can be connected.

Due to the limited pot available for supporting this work we will also consider the value of each application against the cost, ensuring that we get the most output possible for the project and nature.

Rules

In order to provide funds for a particular project we will need to follow the following funding guidelines.

- Evidence of land ownership (or lease agreement) to deliver the proposed work.
- Where relevant appropriate consents and/or licences from authorising organisations (such as EA and Natural England)
- Work delivered through the scheme should be maintained for a period of 10 years (a simple plan/advice will be provided).
- Allow access for Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust representatives to conduct monitoring of project area for a period of 10 years.
- Provide evidence of invoices and delivery, with photographs of before, during and after delivery of work.
- Provide organisations governing documents (unless public sector or private owner).
- Depending on scale of project and manner of delivery (where we provide significant funds up front) we may ask to see a copy of recent accounts.

Specific requirements for each project will be provided as part of a third party agreement at the point an award is made.

The initial work will need to be completed before the end of December 2025.