

WHY DO WE EXIST?

The Tweed is one of the region's greatest assets. It provides a focal point for our natural, built and cultural heritage and a multitude of people live, work or enjoy spending time on or near its banks.

There are over
12,500km
of watercourse in
the Tweed catchment

The character and health of our rivers, burns and wetlands, and the life they support, is very much a function of the way we manage the land.

The Tweed Forum is at the heart of this management.

WHO WE ARE

The Tweed Forum is a charitable trust leading integrated land and water management on Tweed.



We bring together bodies, from both sides of the border, with an interest in the management and welfare of the rivers and its environs. The following are members:

Borders Forest Trust
Department for the Environment,
Food and Rural Affairs
Environment Agency
Federation of Borders Angling Associations
Forestry Commission
Natural England
National Farmers Union Scotland
Northumberland County Council
Northumberland National Park Authority
Northumberland Water
Northumberland Wildlife Trust

River Tweed Commission
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Scotland's Rural College
Scottish Borders Council
Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Scottish Government
Scottish Land & Estates
Scottish Natural Heritage
Southern Uplands Partnership
Scottish Water
Tweed Foundation
Visit Scotland

WHAT WE DO

Tweed Forum works with those that own and manage the land to bring about lasting, practical measures that achieve multiple benefits for our environment and society.



Specifically we:

- Work with land managers to bring about a healthier natural environment
- Restore our freshwater habitats including rivers, burns, riparian corridors, ponds, lochs, wetlands and peatlands
- Protect and enhance our biodiversity such as otters and salmon
- Protect our built heritage such as castles, follies, bridges and waterwheels
- Work with the statutory agencies to streamline environmental legislation and cut down on red tape
- Raise awareness of the importance of our natural assets to those living in and visiting the catchment

WHY IT MATTERS

Ensuring that the right measures are carried out in the right places, at the right scale, helps maximise what we get from our land and water assets. We aim to integrate environmental improvements into the working landscape that bring about multiple benefits including:

- Better supplies of cleaner freshwater
- Enhanced flora and fauna of the Tweed
- Enhanced landscape
- Increased resilience against extreme events such as flooding and drought
- Protection and enhancement of fish stocks and the world class fishery it supports
- Help capture and store greenhouse gases
- Increased tourism and recreation opportunities



KEY FACTS

The Tweed is the second largest river in Scotland with a catchment covering **5,000km²**

Tweed Forum has been recognised by the UNESCO HELP programme as an example of **BEST PRACTICE** in catchment management

The salmon fishery contributes over **£18 million** to the local economy and supports over **500 JOBS**



IN RECENT YEARS

Tweed Forum has achieved the following:

250,000
trees planted



700 hectares
of woodland, wetland and moorland brought into management



Over 100
ponds and wetlands created



300 km
of river enhanced



Over 20
listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments restored



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Tweed Forum has secured monies amounting to many millions of pounds in recent years. This has been spent directly on conserving and raising awareness of natural, built and cultural heritage assets. This map shows the spread of partnership projects across the catchment and highlights some key achievements.

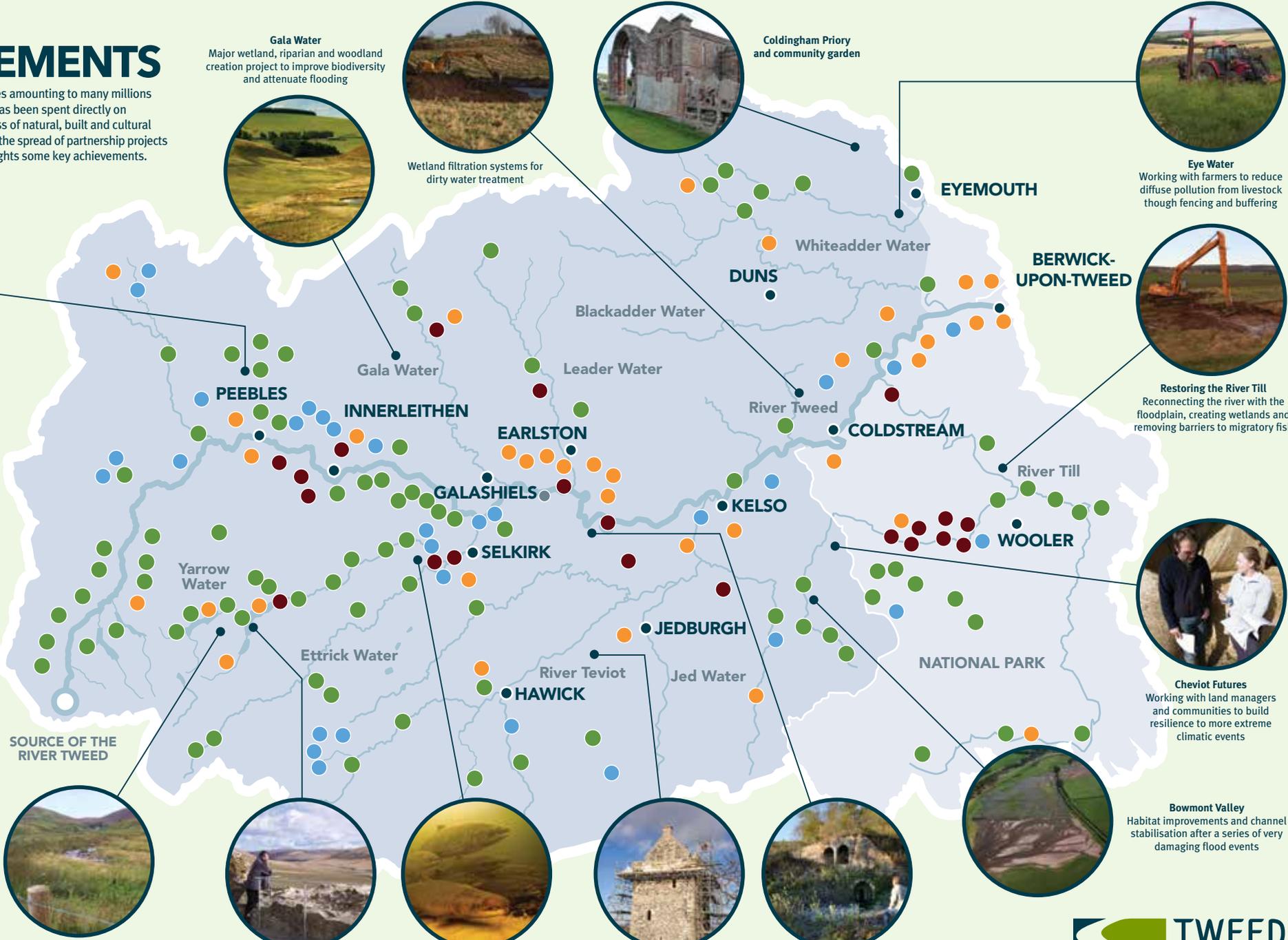


Eddleston Water Project
A major partnership project to test the effectiveness of habitat restoration on reducing flooding



Invasive non native species control
Eradication of Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed along 300 miles of river

Headwaters improvements
Enhances flora and fauna, improves the spawning and nursery areas for salmon, slows down flows and reduces erosion



SOURCE OF THE RIVER TWEED

- KEY**
- Education and Interpretation
 - Built and Cultural
 - Access and Recreation
 - Natural Heritage

Gala Water
Major wetland, riparian and woodland creation project to improve biodiversity and attenuate flooding



Wetland filtration systems for dirty water treatment



Coldingham Priory and community garden



Eye Water
Working with farmers to reduce diffuse pollution from livestock through fencing and buffering



Restoring the River Till
Reconnecting the river with the floodplain, creating wetlands and removing barriers to migratory fish



Cheviot Futures
Working with land managers and communities to build resilience to more extreme climatic events



Bowmont Valley
Habitat improvements and channel stabilisation after a series of very damaging flood events



Dryhope Tower
Saved from collapse



Philiphough Salmon Viewing Centre
Underwater cameras offer an insight into one of nature's greatest migrations



Fatlips Castle
Restoration of an iconic landmark overlooking the Teviot



Crystal Well
Restoration project on St. Cuthbert's Way

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Tweed Forum works in partnership and we need your input. By pooling resources, knowledge, expertise and identifying joint opportunities we can achieve far more, making a real difference to our natural assets.

SUPPORT OUR WORK

If you share our passion about all things Tweed and would like to support our work please go to www.tweedforum.org/donate or you can call us on **01896 849723** or send a cheque to the address below.

OFFSET YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

The average family produces **15 tonnes of CO₂ per annum**. With our partners Forest Carbon we can accurately calculate how to help you balance the whole, or a proportion of, your footprint by carrying out habitat conservation work that will directly benefit the Tweed.

For more details go to www.tweedforum.org/offset



Go to www.tweedforum.org
or call **01896 849723** for more details.

Tweed Forum

South Court, Drygrange Steading, Melrose TD6 9DJ