



**LIFE 13 BIO/UK/000428 EcoCo LIFE
Wildlife Connections, Bo'ness Railway museum; EcoCoLife Monitoring
Impact Report. (Action D.6.)**

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(Likely) Buff-tailed bumblebee (*Bombus terrestris*) on
Field Scabious (*Kanuatia arvensis*)

1 Introduction

The aims of the project is to improve ecological coherence within the central Scotland area through improving biodiversity at key sites, and creating and restoring habitats between sites to improve connectivity and coherence. This purpose is to improve habitat and species resilience and contribute to wider ecosystem services; such as improving natural flood management and reducing diffuse pollution. The project is a partnership between the RSPB and The Inner Forth Landscape Initiative

2 Background

Bo'ness railway siding is part of 'Falkirk stepping stones' (Fig. 1) which uses a combination of green roofs, brownfield and amenity sites to construct a series of habitats and food sources for invertebrates, across the heavily urbanised and industrial part of the Inner Forth.



Figure 1: Falkirk 'stepping stones' location map



Figure 2: prepared bed for wildflower mix

The railway siding is at the entrance to the Bo'ness railway museum. The small strip of land approximately 60m x 2m, was planted up with a pollinator mix of 25 wildflower species.

Although a relatively small area, it forms part of a pollinator corridor that begins in the ship breakers yard at Bridgend goes through Grangemouth and Kinneil to Bonnyfield west of Falkirk.

3 Monitoring

As well as the habitat enhancements, included in this this project, RSPB undertook at least 3 bird surveys per year of managed sites, such as on farms and golf courses.

Additional to this, in 2014, the RSPB also surveyed the Historic Environment Scotland sites that lie within the project area. Detailed results for each of these HES site surveyed can be found in *RSPB bird surveys; HES report, 2015* as well as key recommendations to further enhance these sites for wildlife. It is the intent that increasing the abundance and variety of wildlife at each site will also improve visitor experience.

4 Future monitoring

None is planned

5 References

RSPB bird surveys; HES report, 2015. SNH ref [A2126474](#)