

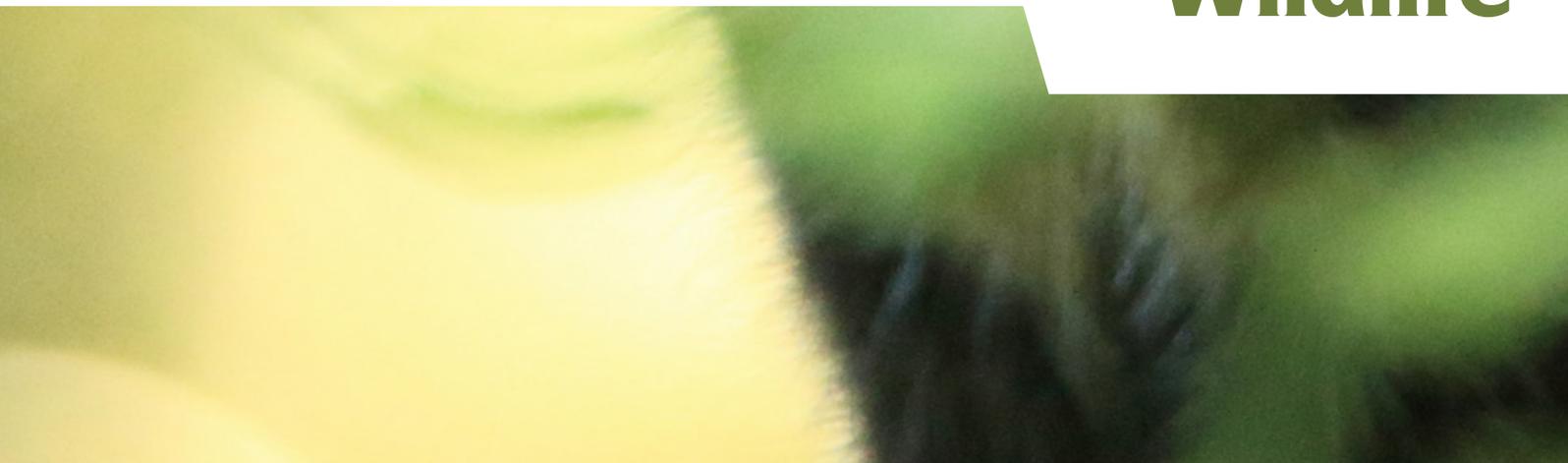


Ulster Wildlife Trust

**Annual Report &
Accounts 2018/19**



**Ulster
Wildlife**





Little Egret at Bog Meadows Nature Reserve © E Morrison

Contents

	Page
Foreword	4
Nature's Recovery	6
At a Glance...2018/19	9
Inspire People to Champion Wildlife and Value Nature	10
Education.....	11
Events.....	11
Training.....	13
Volunteering	13
Protect and Restore Habitats and Ecosystems through Practical Action and Research	14
Nature Reserves	15
Protected Sites.....	17
Species Action.....	21
Standing up for Nature by Influencing Government Policy	24
Policy.....	25
Promote Health & Well-being through Enjoyment of the Natural Environment	26
Promoting Nature as a Tool to Improve Health.....	27
Grow our Success and Extend our Reach	28
Teamwork for Wildlife	29
Landfill Communities Fund	29
Our Supporters	30
Thank you	31
Financial Review	32
Plans for the Future	34
Structure, Governance and Management	36
Key Policies and Processes	38
Advisors, Senior Personnel and Administrative Details	41
Financial Statements	42



A message from our Chairman:

This year has been very important for all of us at Ulster Wildlife with significant projects maturing and new programmes being launched.

Our barn owls, red squirrel and magnificent meadows work has continued apace with wonderful community engagement. The Sea Deep project which focuses on sharks, skates and rays in our local waters was launched in June 2018, again with a massive response. Excellent progress has been made in seabird recovery on Muck Island and we hope to see bird species growing over future years. We have also continued to strive for the protection of healthy badgers.

The charity has also strengthened during the year and we continue to develop enhanced skills and it is so pleasing to see our staff being frequently featured in the media - we have several budding stars. Several of our sites are now frequently featured on television noticeably Bog Meadows, Slievenacloy and Ballynahone Bog. We are increasingly seen as the major environmental voice in Northern Ireland.

Financially, the organisation continues to be very sound and we prudently manage all our funding and membership donations. The Board of Trustees has a wide range of experience

and together with our Honorary President, Joe Furphy, and a large number of volunteers, makes a major contribution to Ulster Wildlife's work.

Looking forward we must continue to listen to our members and drive our strategy accordingly. We will be more pro-active in the field of climate change and the cleaning up of our countryside and marine habitats. The protection of Northern Ireland's peatlands is emerging as a significant issue and this is high on our agenda. We will also seek to bring our knowledge of the environment to initiate mental well-being projects. As is the nature of Ulster Wildlife, we will be seeking practical projects, involving our members to achieve visible results.

Finally, I would like to thank you and all our members and would urge you to encourage your friends, colleagues and family to join us in our important work.

Ken Brundle



A message from our Chief Executive:

Celebrating our 40th anniversary at Clondeboye Estate in September 2018 was a special occasion and we were delighted that so many members joined us for the day.

Our work on caring for protected species and habitats continues and some notable successes have been achieved as you will see in the Annual Report.

We continued with our twin themes of Living Landscapes and Living Seas with highlights during the year including our first shark tagged and a bumper brood of baby barn owls in Crumlin. The year was not without its challenges, as we negotiated our way through the uncertainties of Brexit and the lack of an Assembly here; and I must acknowledge the skills and commitment of our passionate staff team and our growing number of dedicated volunteers for their sterling efforts during the year.

I'd also like to thank the Board of Trustees for providing excellent leadership and direction, and for the time they commit to Ulster Wildlife.

We now have over 13,500 members supporting nature in Northern Ireland which shows just how important a healthy natural environment, full of wildlife is for so many people here.

Recent months have seen the publication of some alarming new scientific reports highlighting the urgency of action to limit global temperature increase to below the widely recognised danger threshold of 1.5°C and also the "unprecedented" decline in global biodiversity with 1 million plants and animals at risk of extinction.

Looking to the future we will build on our strong foundation developing ambitious new projects to ensure nature's recovery.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jennifer Fulton



Ken and Jennifer along with Joe Furphy, Honorary President of Ulster Wildlife and Broadcaster, Colin Stafford Johnson at the 2018 Members' Day

Nature's Recovery

For over 40 years Ulster Wildlife has been driven and supported by people who believe that wildlife and wild places are important. Nature brings a host of benefits for society - it is fundamental to human well-being and underpins a sustainable economy. We are a local charity that champions native wildlife. We work with local people to secure space for nature in our countryside, towns, coastlines and seas.

Our long-term vision is for a Northern Ireland with: ‘...a healthy, well cared for natural environment which contributes to enjoyment, quality of life, prosperity, health & well-being’.

Ulster Wildlife's charitable objectives as set out in our Articles of Association are -

- (1) The advancement of environmental protection and improvement, in particular the conservation of all aspects of Northern Ireland and its adjacent areas' wildlife, biodiversity, geodiversity and associated natural beauty for the benefit of present and future generations by:
 - (a) safeguarding, maintaining and enhancing natural biodiversity and geodiversity through the management of nature reserves (however entitled or however established);
 - (b) practising, advocating, encouraging, influencing, advising and campaigning for best conservation practice involving land, sea and freshwater management practice in ways that favour biodiversity, geodiversity, ecosystem health, sustainable use of natural resources and sustainable development;
 - (c) undertaking action, independently or in partnership, to protect threatened habitats, sites of geodiversity or heritage significance, at local, national or international levels on or in water, land and adjacent seas;
- (2) The advancement of education by raising the public's awareness and knowledge of all aspects of the natural and built heritage, biodiversity and geodiversity of Northern Ireland and its adjacent areas by promoting, undertaking and co-operating in research and gathering and sharing information on these topics.
- (3) The advancement of citizenship through volunteering linked to natural heritage including the promotion of sustainable food production and sustainable lifestyles.
- (4) The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage and science linked to natural heritage through events and project-based action.
- (5) The advancement of health and well-being through activities linked to the natural environment.

Our Charitable Objectives are delivered through the two Strategic Themes of Living Landscapes and Living Seas.

Our Living Landscapes work is about:

- Working with people and communities to restore damaged and fragmented habitats, reconnecting these and linking them to the green space in our cities, towns and villages.
- Securing a society where people are inspired by, and engaged in, protecting wildlife and where they recognise the economic and social value of nature, and the many ways in which it improves their quality of life.

Our Living Seas work is about:

- Helping wildlife and habitats to recover from past decline as our use of the seas' resources becomes environmentally sustainable.
- Inspiring people about marine wildlife and to value the sea for the many ways in which it supports our quality of life.
- Creating a network of marine protected areas as part of a long-term solution to the management of healthy seas.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have taken into account the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning our future activities.

This Trustees' Report shows how we performed against these Strategic Goals and Targets in 2018/19.



Shags on Isle of Muck Nature Reserve in Summer 2018

Our work to achieve Living Landscapes and Seas is delivered annually focused around five strategic goals.

Our Priorities for 2018/19

This was the fifth year of delivery under our current Corporate Strategy 'Wildlife in Trust' which runs until the end of March 2020.

Our five strategic goals are to:

1. **Inspire people** to champion wildlife and value nature.
2. **Protect and restore habitats and ecosystems** through practical action and research.
3. **Stand up for nature** by influencing government policy.
4. **Promote health and well-being** through enjoyment of the natural environment.
5. **Grow our success** and extend our reach.

Our Fundraising targets for 2018/19 were to:

- > Secure at least 13,500 members or regular supporters.
- > Secure £388,940 income from Membership including Gift-Aid contributions.



Trainees and volunteers repairing fences at Glendun Nature Reserve



Grassroots Challenge Youth Forum - Bird Ringing Session

At a Glance...2018/19



members supporting our work



visits to our nature reserves



people attended our wildlife events



Over



engagements with young people in nature education sessions



684 bags of rubbish collected at beach cleans



Over

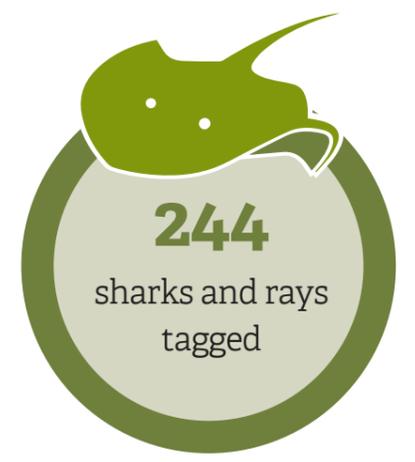


landowners benefiting from advice



Over **800**

people took part in our nature-focused training events



102 NI Priority Species cared for on our nature reserves



204 woodlands surveyed for squirrels



108 sites surveyed for barn owls

Inspire people to champion wildlife and value nature

We believe that in order to protect Northern Ireland's diverse landscapes and seas, and secure a future rich in wildlife, we must invest resources into re-engaging people with nature and educating our society to value the environment as a vital investment in our future health, well-being and economy.



Chris Packham's BioBlitz event at Bog Meadows Nature Reserve

Education

Inspiring and enthusing the next generation of environmental leaders and encouraging them to take action for nature in their local communities is of vital importance in terms of the future of nature conservation. Sadly, our children and young people have become increasingly separated from nature and the outdoors and we want to make sure that every child has the opportunity to benefit from access to wildlife and wild places.

We delivered hundreds of environmental education sessions with Primary Schools, Secondary Schools, Special Schools and Young Farmers' Clubs across Northern Ireland with over 10,000 interactions with young people during the year.

The ParkLife project worked with 40 primary schools across Belfast. The schools took part in five different sessions each; two based indoors and three based in their local park or for six schools, their school grounds. Activities included learning about trees, squirrels, bushcraft and digging for worms and were enjoyed by thousands of pupils.

Six Saturday Clubs continued in the project, with numbers growing steadily. A range of activities, including fire and den making were enjoyed by children and their parents. 17 Belfast City Council Fun Days were attended in July and August 2018, giving children the chance to plant heartsease flowers and learn about edible plants. 12 Belfast-based Community groups also enjoyed ParkLife activities during the year.

Our Grassroots Challenge Project worked directly with 190 pupils across nine post primary Special Schools helping them to improve their understanding of wildlife and to take action in their school grounds.

We held 74 sessions with these schools over the year and carried out activities including biodiversity surveys, wildflower planting, tree planting and making bird feeders. As part of this work, small grants for school grounds improvement projects were also issued to seven Special Schools across Northern Ireland.

We also completed Year Two and commenced Year Three of our 'Environmental Leadership Programme' with four Secondary Schools in the Larne, Carrickfergus and Belfast areas, funded by our Corporate Partner AES UK & Ireland. This project engages young people in environmental action in their local communities.

We worked with 97 Secondary School children in Carrowdore, Newry, Carnlough and Coleraine through our Sea Deep project – teaching young people why sharks are important and how they can help to protect them.

Ulster Wildlife continued to support two Wildlife Watch Groups in Lisburn and Belfast, run by dedicated volunteer leaders, where children meet monthly for fun and engaging nature-based activities.

Events

In 2018/19, Ulster Wildlife ran over 100 events for the public - offering a wide range of ways for people to get involved and learn more about wildlife near them.

Events included talks, walks, rambles and clean-ups across the whole of Northern Ireland with over 2,500 people attending our events in 2018/19. Our events included nine beach cleans, seven snorkel safaris, two shark egg case hunts and five rockpool rambles where people got to learn more about our amazing sea life and help protect it. We ran a programme of events across our nature reserves including bug hunts at Balloo Woodland and bushcraft and bats at Bog Meadows. We also delivered 10 Red Squirrel Safaris at sites around the country including Kilbroney, City Cemetery and Muff Glen.

In July 2018 we also took part in Chris Packham's UK Bioblitz, where we were joined by a number of experts and counted 330 different species in 3 hours. Chris also joined us on the day and spent time chatting with local families, our staff, trainees and volunteers.



Trainees undertaking botanical survey at Umbra Nature Reserve in summer 2018

Training

Seven trainees began the new Lottery Funded Project – ‘Nature Skills NI’ in March 2018.

This project is targeting trainees from underrepresented groups in the heritage sector including people from ethnic minority backgrounds, those with a disability and non-graduates under the age of 24. Throughout their year, trainees benefited from training in various courses such as Brushcutters and Strimmers, Strained Wire Fencing, Snorkel Instructor, Powerboat and Chainsaw, all of which are aimed at helping the trainees gain employment in the conservation sector upon completion. Their action-packed year included practical hands-on experience working within the Nature Reserves and Living Seas teams, working on maintaining our nature reserves, delivering public engagement and education events and assisting other teams with projects such as Red Squirrels United. Trainees also got the opportunity to undertake placements with other organisations in the sector, partnering up with Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute, Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful and National Trust.

Our Grassroots Challenge Project worked with 1,539 young people through the Young Farmers’ Clubs of Ulster network delivering engaging wildlife education and training events throughout Northern Ireland. Our Lantra-Approved ‘Conservation on the Farm NI’ course and other training opportunities were undertaken by 196 young people. Seven Young Farmers Clubs completed their Bronze level Keep NI Beautiful Eco Club Award with a further seven working towards Bronze and two working on their Silver Award. Awards were presented to young people by local wildlife enthusiast Aidan Crean as part of the second Annual Grassroots Challenge Celebration event held at Craigavon Civic Centre in November 2018.

During the year we also delivered five training workshops for our barn owl and squirrel surveys and 10 Lantra courses on grey squirrel management.

Our Sea Deep Project delivered eight shark tagging training courses for sea anglers to help them gather important data on sharks, skates and rays in Northern Ireland waters.

Volunteering

Volunteers remain central to our success and are important members of the Ulster Wildlife team – helping us to achieve our objectives during the year.

Volunteers help on our nature reserves, support our events, as well as providing much-needed support to our fundraising efforts. We’re also increasingly involving volunteers in ‘citizen science’ through our wildlife surveys. It is a privilege to work alongside such a dedicated and passionate group of people.

Over 13,150 volunteer hours were given in 2018/19 to support our conservation efforts. We work hard to ensure a positive and welcoming volunteering environment for everyone and will be working towards achieving the ‘Investors in Volunteers’ charter mark next year.

Our Grassroots Challenge Project also supported Duke of Edinburgh’s Award (DofE) leaders and young people to engage in 10 local projects benefiting wildlife and the environment. Further volunteering took place during a week-long Gold Award Residential which ran for a second year at Ardaun House near Newcastle. Our new Wildlife Expedition Packs were used by 17 DofE groups enabling 348 young people to have wildlife observation and recording as the focus of their Award Expeditions.

A Grassroots Challenge Youth Forum was established during the year involving 12 young people. This group meets regularly during the year and helps to plan and deliver the project’s annual celebration event. Two members also represented the project on the UK-wide ‘Our Bright Future’ Youth Forum meetings in Cardiff, Manchester and London during the year.

Protect and restore habitats and ecosystems through practical action and research

We continue to promote the restoration of natural systems to provide maximum benefit for native species, habitats and people. This work centres around the protection and good management of core, high-nature-value sites, and seeks to promote habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors to form the basis of ecological networks within our landscapes and seas. We use our local presence and knowledge to carry out practical habitat management work, and assist others in doing so.

Nature Reserves

During 2018/19, Ulster Wildlife managed and protected 18 Nature Reserves covering 682 hectares of land across Northern Ireland. The suite of nature reserves contains a range of some of the most important sites for nature conservation in the country and is home to over 100 NI Priority Species and 19 NI Priority Habitats.

An impressive range of activities takes place throughout the year including species and habitat monitoring, habitat management, access maintenance, guided walks and public events, as well as volunteer and education activities. Several key projects took place during 2018/19 that benefited both wildlife and people.

Bog Meadows in Belfast received a 'mini facelift' - scrubbed up areas were cleared to restore open habitats and deter anti-social behaviour. A converted shipping container classroom was installed, which will see an expansion of educational and community activities in the local area.

Non-native species work included the combating Himalayan Balsam at Moyola Waterfoot on the north-western shore of Lough Neagh as well as further removal of sea buckthorn at Umbra nature reserve near Downhill. Happily, there has been no sign of the aquatic non-native invasive floating pennywort in the ponds at Balloo Woodland since its removal in early 2018.

Conservation actions at Inishargy Bog included one hectare of bracken spraying and clearance of 1.5 hectares of gorse scrub. The effect on the site has been transformational and, in tandem with new grazing infrastructure, Inishargy is now ready to facilitate cattle for the first time in several years. Continued management through conservation grazing and habitat restoration will maintain this site for the rare marsh fritillary butterfly.

Conservation grazing is an important tool in protecting native habitats and species – several key sites are grazed including Bog Meadows, Feystown, Glendun, Slievenacloy and Umbra.

Also, for the first time in several decades sheep were able to graze the Isle of Muck – it is hoped that over time the improvements to the grassland sward will increase the available habitat for breeding seabirds.

Survey and monitoring work during the period included bird, butterfly and moth surveying at Slievenacloy, Glenarm and Ballynahone Bog as well as vegetation monitoring at Feystown, Straidkilly and Umbra. The seabird colony at the Isle of Muck was counted for the first time since the removal of brown rats – whilst it is too early to tell the true impact on the seabird population there was a noticeable increase in the numbers of common eider ducklings seen in the local area.

Ammonia monitoring at Ballynahone Bog continued throughout the period, the results of which will tell us how the site is being impacted and help inform how to protect this site, and others like it across Northern Ireland.



Common spotted orchids at Magilligan

Protected Sites

During 2018/19, we continued to work in partnership with the Ministry of Defence to secure management of the Ballykinler and Magilligan Special Areas of Conservation (SACs).

10 hectares of gorse and blackthorn that were cut the previous year were treated to prevent scrub regrowth, 12 hectares of bracken were also sprayed and approximately another 20 hectares of gorse and blackthorn were cut. Surveys for a number of species were completed including rabbits, petalwort, marsh fritillary, scarce crimson and gold and small eggar moths. Fencing, gates and drinkers have been installed at both sites to enclose approximately another 25 hectares that can be grazed for the first time. We also assisted with finding a grazier for Ballykinler, supervised contractors undertaking a range of work on site and developed the 2019/20 SAC action plan.

During the year, working closely with Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), we implemented a project to create new embryonic dune slack habitat at Magilligan. Using heavy equipment we excavated to just above the winter water table creating a damp hollow in the dunes. This is the first time such a project has been trialled in Northern Ireland and will be monitored in the coming years to judge its effectiveness.

We have also made significant contributions to management of non-designated land that is within the military estate. Working with local company Ecoseeds and using seed sourced from within Northern Ireland we have established a wildflower meadow on disused sports pitches and reseeded an extensive area of disturbed ground around a new driver training circuit.

Our nature reserves team continued to work in partnership with Copeland Bird Observatory members to support the management of the Copeland Islands Special Protection Area (SPA) just off the coast from Donaghadee in Co. Down. Grassland management and invasive species works continued for the range of bird species found here including Manx shearwater and Arctic tern.

We continued our work on the Environmental Farming Scheme (EFS) in Fermanagh which rewards farmers and landowners for managing designated sites and priority habitats to move them towards favourable condition status. Designated sites such as Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and Areas of Special Scientific Interest are all eligible for these public monies. Each applicant develops a bespoke EFS plan for the designated sites they own or manage with the help of an Ulster Wildlife Planner.

Ulster Wildlife's EFS programme has now brought in 47 agreements during tranches 1 and 2. With a further 30 farms already lined up for summer 2019, the intention is to bring even more farms under Agreement during 2019. 4,004 hectares of designated or priority habitat farmland has been entered into the scheme under the various habitat prescriptions during 2017 and 2018.

We also run a group scheme under EFS to encourage co-ordinated action among farmers in the project area, encourage other farmers to apply to join EFS and carry out monitoring and reporting on the project. The Fermanagh Group now has 170 members, all of whom are offered mentoring sessions, group events, information, advice and on-going support from Ulster Wildlife's base at Fermanagh House.



Cuilcagh Mountain - one of the sites in the CANN Project

Protected Sites

Ulster Wildlife is one of the main delivery partners of the Collaborative Action for the Natura Network (CANN), a cross-border environmental partnership which is led by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. The project is funded by the EU's INTERREG VA Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body, and aims to protect peatlands and wetlands in Northern Ireland, Ireland and Scotland.

Hydrological analysis of 13 raised bogs within eight Special Areas of Conservation across Northern Ireland has pinpointed exact locations where dam blocking will allow active peat formation. Over 100 piezometers (water table monitors) were installed to allow us to establish a baseline for the water table. To allow peat to form, the water table should ideally be within 10cm of the surface for 90% of the year. Control of highly invasive rhododendron was put out to tender for removal by contractors.

On the fens and transition mire also in the project, species highlights include the first discovery in Northern Ireland of the tiny Desmoulin's whorl snail (*Vertigo moulinsiana*), one of the rarest snails in Europe; and recording of two species new to Ireland: the false striped woodlouse (*Philoscia affinis*) and bleeding tooth fungus (*Hydnellum peckii*).

In November 2018, additional funding was confirmed for Cuilcagh Mountain SAC (NI) and Cuilcagh-Anierin Uplands SAC (ROI), with Ulster Wildlife acting as lead delivery partner for this cross-border site. These SACs represent one of the largest expanses of Annex 1 blanket bog habitat on the island of Ireland. A specification has been developed in consultation with local stakeholders to restore the rare montane heath on the summit of Cuilcagh Mountain, which has been significantly impacted by high visitor pressures. A cross-border working group has been established to focus on sustainable visitor management in the area. Ulster Wildlife also facilitated the creation of a Wildfire Management Stakeholder Group, ensuring cross-border cooperation to tackle significant wildfire pressure across the SACs. A series of drop-in information sessions were delivered to discuss the project with local communities, landowners and other interest groups.



Barn Owl Volunteer Solene helping with the ringing of chicks in Crumlin in summer 2018

Species Action

The Red Squirrels United (RSU) project completed its second year during 2018/19.

RSU which is funded by EU Life14 and National Lottery Heritage Fund, is the biggest ever partnership of academics, practitioners and volunteers working together on a scientifically robust programme of red squirrel conservation across the UK. It is led by The Wildlife Trusts in collaboration with eight partners including community organisations, Newcastle University and Forest Research.

In Northern Ireland, Ulster Wildlife works with landowners, local communities and local red squirrel groups in four of the last remaining red squirrel strongholds in the Mourne, Broughshane and Ballygally, Fermanagh and the North West to help prevent further spread of grey squirrels through conservation and community engagement activities.

The project has been monitoring and reacting to reincursion of grey squirrels into the Mourne Mountains eradication area and is also supporting red squirrel populations by controlling greys around the Broughshane and Braid Valley.

During 2018/19, we undertook a Northern Ireland-wide survey of red squirrels and pine martens and had some very surprising results: particularly that grey squirrels appear to be declining in range in Co. Tyrone and Fermanagh and pine marten are completing their recolonisation of the region with numerous sightings this year and for the first time now in Co. L/Derry. These results informed our efforts to set up volunteer groups dedicated to the conservation of red squirrels. New conservation groups are currently in the formative stages of being set up in central Down, Donegal and Castlewellsan and new groups entering their second year in existence include North Down, Rostrevor, west Tyrone and Cityside in Derry/Londonderry.

Our Be There for Barn Owls project has continued to engage with the community, produce and erect barn owl boxes and increase our understanding of the barn owl here in Northern Ireland.

Over the past year we have produced, distributed and erected 17 barn owl boxes focusing on core barn owl habitat around Co. Down and the shores of Lough Neagh. A national survey of erected boxes and other sites found that we now have two barn owl boxes being used by barn owls and identified another six long eared owl breeding sites. We have been able to create barn owl 'heat maps' for where the species is most likely to be found based on historic sighting data, precipitation data and habitat data - this is now used to target survey and conservation work.

We had huge success in summer 2018 at one of our sites with a total of five barn owl chicks fledging and are continuing to provide nest boxes in that area to encourage nesting. The chicks were all ringed to allow us to monitor their dispersal.

We monitor the boxes and other nest sites using a network of volunteer nest-minders to ascertain breeding success. In addition, pellet dissection was carried out on 48 pellets recovered from sites across Northern Ireland, of these 75% contained wood mice, 14% contained house mice, 7% contained shrew, 4% rat and 1% bird. All of this information is fed into an Ulster Wildlife report for barn owl conservation which can be downloaded from our website and into the State of the UK Barn Owl report on barn owl breeding success and volunteering effort.



Hunting for shark egg cases at Minerstown beach

Species Action

Our new Sea Deep project – which focusses on the conservation of sharks, skates and rays – was launched on World Oceans Day in June 2018. With support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Sea Deep is training sea anglers and coastal volunteers to record much-needed information about these incredible, but severely threatened, creatures. From tagging sharks at sea to recording their egg cases on the shore, the project aims to improve our understanding of endangered species so we can target local conservation efforts.

Sharks and rays are long-lived and slow to mature and reproduce which makes them particularly vulnerable to overfishing and other threats such as pollution, disturbance or habitat destruction. These characteristics result in low population growth rates and mean that with the increasing use of our seas, the numbers of many of our sharks, skates and rays have significantly reduced.

Sea Deep provides free training and equipment to sea anglers around the coast. Our shark tagging courses train volunteers in best practice techniques to handle, tag and record information about these endangered animals.

Throughout the first year, Sea Deep delivered eight shark tagging training courses. This allowed us to gain much-needed information on many of our most threatened species including porbeagle, spurdog, tope, and the 'common' skate. This ironically named animal is the largest skate in the world, growing up to 3 metres in length. It lives for up to 100 years old but sadly is now more endangered than the snow leopard or African elephant, highlighting the urgent need to gain better protection for the sharks, skates and rays in our seas.

Sea Deep is also encouraging all coast lovers to hunt for shark and skate egg cases along the shore. Better known as 'mermaids' purses', these cases can be identified to the exact species that laid them. This will provide important information on the different kinds of species in our seas and where their spawning and nursery grounds may be. In year 1, we engaged with over 3,265 people at talks, festivals, shark egg case hunts and training courses.

We are also working closely with four coastal schools to deliver a year-long education programme to Key Stage 3 pupils in each year of the project. This programme covers three modules and takes pupils on a journey from learning about these local animals to taking direct action for their conservation in their local area.

Stand up for nature by influencing government policy

We believe that there is great urgency in achieving sustainability in how we use natural resources and in safeguarding biodiversity. Our work with politicians and decision makers seeks to get a better deal for nature. We will contribute to emerging government policy, raising awareness of biodiversity, ecosystem services and natural capital.



Nephrops norvegicus
© Paul Naylor

Policy

During 2018/19 Ulster Wildlife continued to act as one of the lead organisations on the NI Environment Link Brexit Coalition to ensure the best future for our environment post-Brexit.

The Coalition continued its work under the banner of the 'Nature Matters NI' campaign to influence and inform policymakers, political representatives and the public.

During the year we developed policy positions on areas including future agriculture policy and subsidies, environmental protection and governance and future fisheries policies.

Ulster Wildlife chairs the Marine & Fisheries Group within the Nature Matters NI campaign. The sustainability of commercial fish stocks and fishing communities are inextricably linked to the health of our seas and the life found within them. Through this group, we have been advocating for a sustainable post-Brexit fisheries policy that recognises the need to manage commercial fisheries within the wider context of a healthy and recovering marine environment. We have responded to the UK Sustainable Fisheries Policy Consultation and fed into the development of amendments for the UK Fisheries Bill. We continue to engage with Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and local industry through our position on the DAERA Brexit Fisheries Stakeholder Group and the Inshore Fisheries Partnership.

Ulster Wildlife is one of the lead partners in the NI Marine Task Force (NIMTF), a coalition of 10 NGOs working for better marine protection in our local seas. Through this role, we have continued our work to ensure that a well-managed network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) is completed within NI waters. We want to see sanctuaries for our marine wildlife that protect important species and habitats, and help to restore our seas. This year, NIMTF have been assessing the completeness of the NI MPA network and met with representatives from the DAERA Marine Division to discuss current gaps and the data required for further designations.

In April 2018, NIMTF provided detailed recommendations in our response to a public consultation on the DAERA draft Marine Plan for NI, stating that we felt the draft plan was not fit for purpose as it did not go far enough to promote the restoration of our marine environment, it did not adequately detail mechanisms for accountability and it did not integrate all policies into an effective ecosystems-based approach (one that places the environment at the heart of decision making). Following the consultation, we have worked in partnership with Queen's University and Ulster University to produce a joint briefing paper which presents evidence and recommendations for furthering an ecosystems-based approach to the marine plan. DAERA have acknowledged the usefulness of this paper and their interest in discussing how these recommendations may be incorporated into the final plan.

Promote health and well-being through enjoyment of the natural environment

Access to, and enjoyment of, wild places and wildlife has been shown to have a positive impact on our physical and emotional well-being and is important for people of all ages both in terms of preventing illness and managing health conditions. Ulster Wildlife continues to provide opportunities to engage with nature and believes it is an important factor in achieving a healthy society.



Guided walk at Bog Meadows Nature Reserve

Promoting Nature as a Tool to Improve Health

During 2018/19, we continued to promote our nature reserves as places to enjoy the natural environment and to gain the positive effects of being outdoors in nature. Our nature reserves can act as green gyms and places to engage with nature and the range of benefits this brings. We provide access to local green spaces through our nature reserves and manage 7.8 km of access paths throughout the year.

Access for visitors is a large part of the work of the Nature Reserves team - a lot of effort goes into maintaining paths and facilities at Bog Meadows, Milford Cutting, Moyola Waterfoot, Slievenacloy and Straidkilly.

Major improvement works took place at Milford Cutting Nature Reserve, near Armagh City, where new access infrastructure included a 150metre stone path, as well as new steps and railings.

Visitor numbers to our nature reserves with visitor counters show that they are very well used by the local community. During 2018/19, Bog Meadows had over 50,000 visits, Balloo over 13,000 visits and Slievenacloy over 8,000 visits. We also provide opportunities for people to get active while learning about wildlife at guided walks across our sites.

In early 2019 we delivered a pilot programme of 'Winter Wellness Walks' at Bog Meadows in Belfast supported by the Public Health Agency through the CLEAR Project. The two 4-week programmes focused on nature, mindfulness and social interaction, based around the 'Take 5 Steps to Well-being' allowing participants to enjoy a physical activity whilst connecting with others and experiencing and learning about the nature and wildlife close to the city.

Several people from the programme came back to Bog Meadows for walks after the programme which shows that it encouraged more people to make independent use of the nature reserve and so continue to benefit from being active outdoors and connecting with each other.

We used the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale to measure participants' well-being at the start and end of the programme. The average total across the participants in week one was 42.11 and in week four it was 56.78 indicating a positive change in well-being.

Ulster Wildlife's practical work days on our nature reserves provide a chance for our volunteers to get their green gym experience while also learning new skills and meeting other like-minded people. We supported 729 volunteer days on our nature reserves in 2018/19.

Grow our success and extend our reach

As a locally governed charity, we will develop our committed, skilled and knowledgeable staff and volunteer base. We will continue to extend our reach in terms of fundraising to deliver impacts for nature and ensure we make the most efficient and effective use of our resources.



Ulster Wildlife Staff and Volunteers at the Balmoral Show in 2018

Teamwork for Wildlife

Ulster Wildlife's success is dependent on our dedicated staff, trainees and volunteers. We continued working towards achieving the 'Investing in Volunteers' charter mark in 2018/19 with the aim of achieving the award in 2019/20.

At the end of 2018/19 we had 42 employed staff and 234 registered volunteers all working together to achieve our vision.

We invested time and resources into planning and a developing our fundraising strategy during 2018/19, looking ahead to the next five-year strategic plan in Ulster Wildlife, to ensure we secure the necessary funding to achieve our vision and plans for the next period.

Landfill Communities Fund

It has been another successful year for the Landfill Communities Fund with over £700k distributed in the twelve months to March 2019.

The LCF is a grant award scheme which allows landfill operators to contribute a portion of their landfill tax to a fund which is used for community and environmental projects in the vicinity of a landfill site. Ulster Wildlife is registered as an Environmental Body with ENTRUST, the Government appointed regulator of the scheme to distribute monies on behalf of Landfill Operators.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council are our only two remaining contributors of funds as LCF activity continues to reduce as landfill tax achieves its objective of increased recycling and landfill site closures. The amount distributed to projects in 2018/19 was c£720k. There were 21 active projects at the end of March 2019.

For the remaining lifespan of contributions from our landfill operators, Ulster Wildlife will continue to maximise the benefits of distributing funding to projects which are aligned with our own strategic goals of promoting health and well-being through enjoyment of the environment and rebuilding biodiversity and ecosystems.

Our Supporters

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has supported local nature conservation over the past year. They have protected wildlife and wild places by becoming members, making donations, leaving gifts in Wills and encouraging their businesses to support our work. Fundraising through membership, corporate members and legacies continue to be the main sources of unrestricted income for Ulster Wildlife. Currently, the majority of our projects are funded through grants from statutory sources and Charitable Trusts matched with this unrestricted funding. We are looking forward to a new, more strategic phase of fundraising over the next year, and are very grateful to everyone who fed into our fundraising focus groups this year.

Membership

In 2018/19 we exceeded our target of 13,500 members, with a total of 13,608 members and 6,323 memberships – representing a 6.3% growth rate on the previous year. We hope to double that in 2019/20. Membership income including Gift Aid contributions was £385,714 against a target of £388,940.

Membership income is extremely important as it is unrestricted and can be used wherever the need is greatest for local wildlife and nature. Our members also give us a mandate when talking to Government and other decision-makers about wildlife protection and conservation.

Legacies and In-Memory Gifts

Increasingly our supporters are making the amazing decision to leave a gift to Ulster Wildlife in their Will. A gift in your Will, no matter the size, allows your passion for nature to live on and ensure those following in your footsteps can experience the amazing wildlife that calls Northern Ireland home. We are so very grateful that wildlife was remembered by, David Miskimmin, Mary Collette McAlister and David Anderson, through gifts in their Wills and donations in lieu of flowers to the total amount of £5,684.

Other Fundraising

Income (£31,320) was raised for our conservation work in other ways over the past year - including one-off donations, both on-and offline; charging for events and education sessions; delivering Wildlife Aware courses to businesses; selling merchandise and our annual Wildlife Calendar. In addition, an annual appeal to raise £20,000 for barn owl conservation was launched in December 2018 and will close off in 2019/20.

Corporate Members

We are grateful to all the businesses that provide support for nature in Northern Ireland through our Corporate Membership Scheme.

Platinum	AES UK & Ireland
Gold	Bombardier
Silver	Allstate Northern Ireland Belfast International Airport CES Quarry Products Ltd Encirc Ltd NIE Network
Bronze	Alpha Housing Belfast Harbour Henry Brothers Ltd Lafarge Cement
Standard	Chaka Travel Danske Bank Finlay's Foods Henderson Group Ltd Peninsula Print & Design Ltd Pritchitts, A Lakeland Dairies Company

Thank you...

...to our community of over 13,500 members and donors. Together we are standing up for nature and bringing wildlife back from the brink.



Members' Day at Clondeboye Estate in September 2018

Below are some of the organisations whose vital contributions helped to make a difference in 2018/19.

AES UK and Ireland	Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Alpha Programme (Groundwork NI)	EU Life 14
Ards and North Down Borough Council	Heritage Lottery Fund
Belfast City Council	INTERREG VA
Biffa Award	Landfill Communities Fund through Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
Big Lottery Fund	Ministry of Defence
Bombardier Aerospace Foundation	Public Health Agency through the CLEAR Project
Comber Rotary	Rees Jeffreys Road Fund
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland Environment Agency)	West Belfast Policing & Community Safety Partnership supported by Belfast City Council

Financial Review at 31 March 2019

Ulster Wildlife's financial position remained stable during the year and a modest surplus on unrestricted activities was achieved.

Sources of Income

Unrestricted income is revenue generated by the charity for its general purposes. It can be used at the discretion of the charity on any of the charity's objects and is mostly made up of donations from our members and supporters.

Unrestricted income was slightly higher than in the previous year (+£24k).

Restricted income is income given to the charity for specific purposes. It may be a grant for a specific piece of conservation work or education activity or funds to be awarded as grants to third parties, in line with specific grant guidelines.

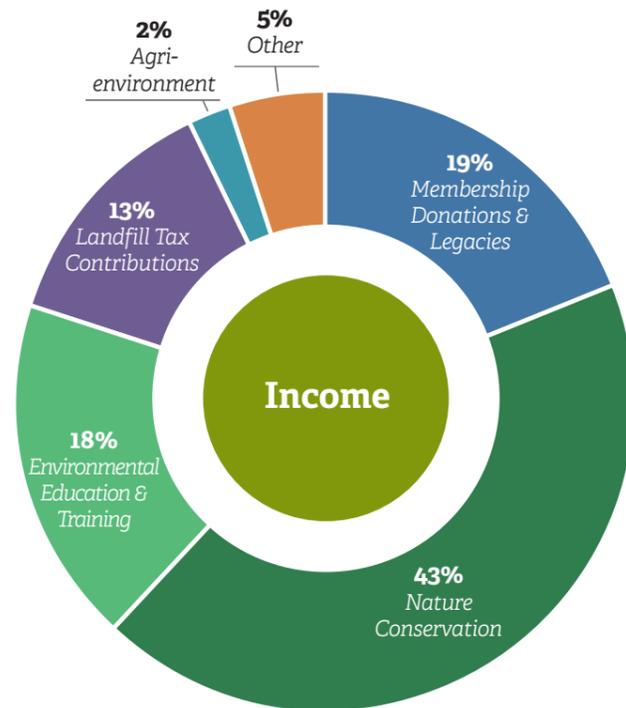
Ulster Wildlife's restricted income has two main components, grants for specific conservation and education activity which is delivered by

the charity and Landfill Communities Funds where grants are awarded by the charity to third parties for purposes defined under the Landfill Communities Fund guidelines.

Restricted income in 2018/19 was c. £124k lower than 2017/18.

Grants from third parties awarded to Ulster Wildlife for the direct delivery of specific conservation outcomes decreased by £19k in the year. This relates to the timing of project work and grant income claimed.

Contributions to the Landfill Communities Fund decreased by £100k. This is a reflection of the decrease in the level of waste being sent to landfill by the landfill operators we work with.



Sources of Income	Unrestricted Funds £,000	Restricted Funds £,000	Total Funds £,000	Ratio
Membership Donations & Legacies	411	4	415	19%
Nature Conservation	1	927	928	43%
Agri-environment payments	41	5	46	2%
Landfill Tax Contributions	-	282	282	13%
Environmental Education & Training	13	374	387	18%
Other Income	56	57	113	5%
Total Income	522	1,649	2,171	100%

How the Charity spent its resources

Both restricted and unrestricted expenditure in 2018/19 were higher than in 2017/18 (+£422k).

In line with the income split, a large part of the expenditure is on conservation and education activity.

Restricted projects make a contribution to core overhead costs for time and expenses incurred in running the projects.

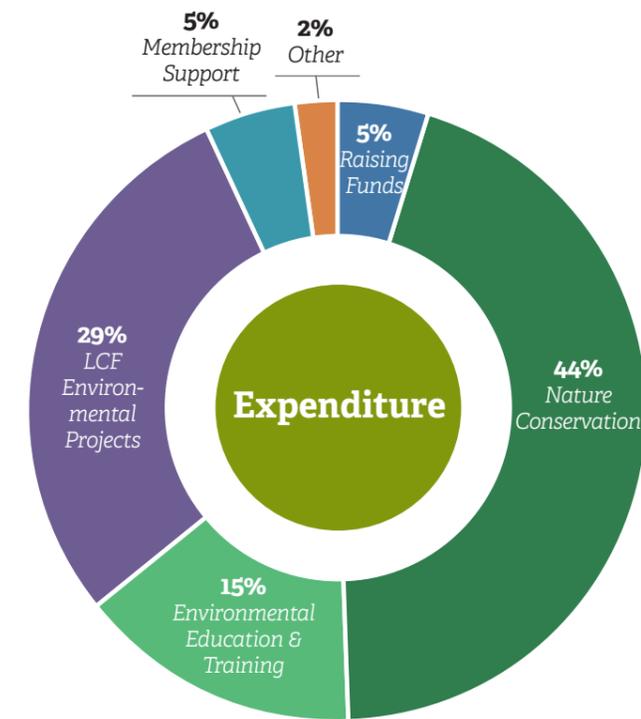
After taking this contribution into account an unrestricted surplus of £31k was generated.

The small surplus is in keeping with the charity's objectives which are to deliver conservation outcomes rather than a surplus of income over expenditure. A modest surplus is, however, necessary in order to maintain financial stability and help to secure the long term viability of the charity.

After expenditure on restricted projects, the 'deficit' on restricted funds amounted to £449k. This 'deficit' represents expenditure on projects in the year to 31 March 2019 where the funds were received in prior years and was in line with expectations.

The major part of this amount relates to Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) grants (£447k), this is outlined in Note 5, where we can see that for this twelve month period expenditure was higher than income due to timing.

Restricted financial reserves cannot be utilised by the charity, except for the very specific purposes set out by the funder. These reserves are therefore not available to fund either general working capital requirements or any unexpected events.



Expenditure	Total Funds £,000	Ratio
Raising Funds	122	5%
Nature Conservation	1,151	44%
Environmental Education & Training	383	15%
LCF Environmental Projects	749	29%
Membership Support	132	5%
Other Expenditure	40	2%
Total Expenditure	2,577	100%

Note:

Organisational support costs of £220k (Notes 10 & 11) have been allocated across the activities above on a proportional basis representing the resources expended to run all aspects of the charity.

Plans for the Future

2019/20 will be the final year of our current seven-year Corporate Strategy - 'Wildlife in Trust'. Our aims for 2019/20 remain focused on our five strategic goals -

1. **To inspire people** to champion wildlife and value nature.
2. **To protect and restore habitats and ecosystems** through practical action and research.
3. **To stand up for nature** by influencing government policy.
4. **To promote health and well-being** through enjoyment of the natural environment.
5. **To grow our success** and extend our reach.

Our fundraising targets for 2019/20 are:

- > To secure at least 14,050 members or regular supporters.
- > To secure £409,196 income from Membership including Gift-Aid contributions.



Lesser spotted dogfish
© A Lewis

2019/20 will be the last year of our current Strategic Plan so significant time during the year will be spent on researching, consulting with stakeholders, members, staff and volunteers on the development of our new Strategic Plan for the next four years.

We are acutely aware of the seriousness of the declines we are seeing in our natural world. The IPBES Global Assessment on Biodiversity released in May 2019 spelled out that nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history – and the rate of species extinction is accelerating, with grave impacts on people around the world now likely. It sets out that top five drivers of biodiversity decline are: (1) changes in land and sea use; (2) direct exploitation of organisms; (3) climate change; (4) pollution and (5) invasive alien species.

The IPBES report concludes: “Through ‘transformative change’, nature can still be conserved, restored and used sustainably. By transformative change, we mean a fundamental, system-wide reorganisation across technological, economic and social factors.”

We will seek to address all these drivers during the development of our new strategic plan and identify the unique role that we can play in influencing them for the better and also ensure that we take into account the need for urgent, transformative, innovative solutions that can address the issues and safeguard all our future well-being.

It appears as though our Government is finally accepting that we need radical change if we are to avoid future catastrophe. The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs is producing ‘A Northern Ireland Strategy for a Better Environment’ over the next year. This long-term plan will address climate action, waste, air and water pollution, and nature recovery on land and at sea. The intention is for the plan to be endorsed by the whole NI Executive (once we have one back up and running) and will include commitments across all government departments.

Ulster Wildlife will be working with partner organisations across the environment sector to feed into this plan over the next year, and will be challenging the Department to put forward a plan with ambitious targets. We want to see clear commitments and measurable, binding targets for safeguarding our natural life-support systems: a plan that reflects the true value of nature to our future well-being. We’ll be fighting for the most ambitious strategy possible for Northern Ireland and we’ll be encouraging all our members and supporters to get involved and play their part in nature’s recovery.

A key part of our future thinking on nature conservation will be the concept of ‘nature recovery networks’. This means a connected landscape where wildlife can move between habitats in response to impacts like global warming. The capability and understanding of this concept and how it can be practically applied will be developed and piloted in the coming years.

Our red squirrel conservation project ‘Red Squirrels United’ will end in the autumn of 2019/20 so we’ll be seeking other funding avenues to continue our red squirrel conservation work over the coming months to ensure this much-loved, iconic creature has a future in Northern Ireland.

Our focus on sharks, skates and rays will continue through our Sea Deep project where we’ll be focusing on upskilling as many sea anglers as possible to help gather data for the endangered sharks in our local seas. Another focus will be continuing our efforts to secure better protection for our seas through the completion of management plans for all our marine protected areas and for fit-for-purpose fisheries policies to be implemented when we leave the EU.

We will continue to invest in our own nature reserves as special sanctuaries for some of our most rare and threatened species as well as further developing nature and well-being programmes based around our own sites. Our focus on peatlands will continue through the Interreg VA-funded Collaborative Action for the Natura Network Project. Working on both blanket and raised bogs, such as Cuilcagh Mountain in Fermanagh, Garry Bog in Antrim, and Peatlands Park in Armagh.

We will be expanding our work on the Environmental Farming Scheme (EFS) during 2019/20 and bringing on an additional member of staff to the EFS Team. We will also be inputting into developing government policy around agri-environment support schemes in the future to ensure that they truly deliver the public benefits of a cleaner, greener countryside.

Finally, we will be implementing the first year of our updated fundraising strategy which has a focus on growing our membership further through better engagement of the whole staff and volunteer team. We will also be launching our ‘Fund for the Future’ – a way that people can leave a gift in their Will to Ulster Wildlife which will continue to make a difference for years to come.

Structure, governance and management

Ulster Wildlife Trust, (operating as Ulster Wildlife) is registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (NIC101848) and is a not-for-profit company incorporated in Northern Ireland, limited by guarantee (NI 12711). It is an independent body, locally governed, although affiliated to The Wildlife Trusts, a federated network of 46 charities across the UK.

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees (Council) comprised of up to 16 members, nominated and elected from the membership of the organisation. Council members are elected at the AGM each year to serve up to an eight-year term.

At the AGM at least one quarter of the Council must retire, and unless they have served for eight consecutive years, are eligible for re-election.

Details of the serving Council Members in 2018/19 can be found below:

CHAIRMAN  Ken Brundle <small>(Appointed on 17 September 2013, appointed Chairman 22 November 2017)</small> F & A	VICE-CHAIR  Doris Noe <small>(Appointed on 05 September 2012, appointed Vice Chairman on 22 November 2017)</small> E	VICE-CHAIR  Stephen Aston <small>(Appointed on 07 December 2017, appointed Vice Chairman on 27 September 2018)</small> F & A	HONORARY TREASURER  Ross Boyd <small>(Appointed on 03 March 2016, resigned 16 May 2018)</small> F & A
HONORARY TREASURER  David Hendron <small>(Co-opted on 25 July 2018)</small> F & A	COUNCIL MEMBER  Gillian Allen <small>(Appointed on 19 November 2015)</small> G	COUNCIL MEMBER  Bob Brown OBE <small>(Appointed on 29 September 2010, stood down on 22 September 2018)</small> E	COUNCIL MEMBER  Edith Finlay <small>(Appointed on 28 September 2011, resigned on 14 March 2019)</small> G
COUNCIL MEMBER  Ian Garner <small>(Co-opted on 14 March 2019)</small> E	COUNCIL MEMBER  Ben Matson <small>(Appointed on 05 September 2012)</small> G	COUNCIL MEMBER  Jim McAdam OBE <small>(Appointed on 22 November 2017)</small> E	COUNCIL MEMBER  Lorraine McCourt <small>(Appointed on 05 October 2016)</small> F
COUNCIL MEMBER  Craig McGuicken <small>(Appointed on 07 October 2014)</small> F & A	COUNCIL MEMBER  Fiona McVicker <small>(Appointed on 19 November 2015)</small> G	COUNCIL MEMBER  Howard Platt <small>(Appointed on 07 October 2014)</small> E	COUNCIL MEMBER  Kate Thompson <small>(Co-opted on 14 March 2019)</small> F
COUNCIL MEMBER  Charlie Warmington <small>(Appointed on 22 September 2018, resigned 14 March 2019)</small> F	COUNCIL MEMBER  John Witchell <small>(Appointed on 07 December 2017)</small> E	COUNCIL MEMBER  Ed Wright <small>(Appointed on 07 October 2015)</small> F	

Changes to the Council

Changes to the Ulster Wildlife Council during 2018/19:

Ross Boyd resigned from Council on 16 May 2018. Bob Brown stood down from Council on 22 September 2018 following a full eight-year term. Edith Finlay resigned from Council on 14 March 2019. Charlie Warmington was appointed to Council on 22 September 2018 and resigned on 14 March 2019.

The Board and staff would like to record our thanks for their dedication and contribution.

David Hendron was co-opted to Council on 25 July 2018 and ratified at the AGM. Kate Thompson and Ian Garner were co-opted to Council on 14 March 2019.

The governance sub-structure is made up of four sub-committees - Governance, Finance & Audit, Environment and Fundraising. This governance framework is designed to ensure that we are an accountable, effective and efficient charity and to manage risk at a reasonable level.

- The Governance Committee (G)** ensures that the Ulster Wildlife Council fulfils its legal, ethical, and functional responsibilities through adequate governance policy development, skills audits, recruitment strategies for Council Members, training programmes, monitoring of Council activities and evaluation of Council's performance, human resources and health & safety management.
- The Finance & Audit Committee (F&A)** supports Council in ensuring that the effective governance of Ulster Wildlife is maintained in relation to: Financial and Physical Resources.
- The Environment Committee (E)** provides ongoing strategic input into the organisation's work linked to Living Landscapes and Living Seas. The remit of this Committee encompasses nature reserves, environmental projects linked to habitats and/or species and input into regional policy issues.
- The Fundraising Committee (F)** provides ongoing strategic input to the organisation's fundraising activities - with a focus on unrestricted fundraising.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Ulster Wildlife Trust) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company and charity law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Provision of Information to Auditors

Each of the individuals who is a trustee at the date of approval of this reports confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

DNTCA Limited are deemed to be re-appointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006. This report was approved by the Board on 22 August 2019 and signed on its behalf by


Ken Brundle
Chairman


David Hendron
Honorary Treasurer

Key Policies and processes

Managing Risk

Ulster Wildlife Trustees are responsible for identifying and managing the risks facing the charity. They are responsible for ensuring that Ulster Wildlife has a system of internal control, management and audit to take advantage of opportunities and manage risk effectively.

Risk management is well established and is considered in every aspect of our work. We have an active risk management process in place to make sure that appropriate steps are taken to manage and mitigate risk across the organisation.

The Board of Trustees and Senior Management Team are clear that risk should be very carefully assessed in relation to the health, welfare and security of staff, volunteers and the public and in managing the reputation of Ulster Wildlife. Risks are also reviewed in the broadest sense and anything that might alter or impact on the charity's ability to fulfil its charitable objectives is considered.

Processes include:

- > Risk assessments are completed by all staff to identify, evaluate and manage risks.
- > Risk register with mitigation actions is reviewed at least quarterly by the Board.
- > A comprehensive risk management review is carried out once a year by the Governance and Resources Committees and reported to the Board Meeting.
- > Multi-year planning, with targets that are linked to delivery of Corporate Strategy.
- > Regular financial reporting and control which compares results with budget.
- > 'Value for Money' principles guide when and where we source goods and services.
- > Annual external audit.

The most significant risks identified in 2018/19 were:

- > Uncertainties arising from Brexit - leaving the EU may lead to a weakening of environmental protection, impact on environmental standards and policies. Pro-

active work was undertaken during the year through the Nature Matters NI Campaign to work towards policies to achieve a 'nature friendly' Brexit.

- > Funding uncertainties as a result of the pressures on the NI block grant. Education, health services and the economy remain the spending priorities within the Northern Ireland budget and lack of progress with issues such as the reform of the NHS due to the lack of political leadership continues to deepen the problem. The environment has moved up the public agenda during the year and a fundraising strategy has been developed and the fundraising team restructured to increase unrestricted income. We will be lobbying during the coming year for consideration of environmental levies to fund essential conservation outcomes to enable the UK to meet its international obligations and become the 'first generation to leave the environment in a better state than they inherited' which is the stated goal of Westminster Government.
- > Foreign exchange rate exposure and cash flow risks associated with the delivery of the Interreg project, Collaborative Action for Natura Network and EU Life programme remain a risk with Brexit uncertainties. This has been monitored and proactively managed during the year and no significant concerns have arisen.
- > Staff turnover due to funding uncertainties. Fundraising strategy has been developed to increase the long-term sustainability of the charity.

The main risks to be managed in the year ahead are:

- > Cash flow and foreign exchange rate implications of EU funded projects.
- > Continuing uncertainty around Government funding as a new cycle of Environment Fund bids commences.
- > Retention of skilled and experienced staff during this period of uncertainty.

Our Promise to Our Supporters

Delivering our vision is only possible because of the generosity and enthusiasm of our supporters and therefore we hold our supporters and members in the highest possible regard.

We work hard to ensure that everyone who supports us has a positive experience in their involvement with Ulster Wildlife.

Our Fundraising Approach

We not only adhere to all legal requirements; we also strive to achieve the highest standards in our fundraising by following best practice guidance for the charity sector. Ulster Wildlife is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and follows best practice in fundraising, as laid out in the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice.

How we fundraise

Ulster Wildlife fundraises primarily through offering membership of our charity to the general public and businesses. Membership promotion takes place at venues and events across Northern Ireland. Membership staff are branded and wear photographic ID at all times. In addition, we contact our existing members on an annual basis to give them the option of increasing their financial contribution to our conservation work or giving a one-off donation for a particular appeal.

Any external agencies who conduct this work on our behalf are required to do so in a respectful manner and in accordance with fundraising standards and regulations.

How we use and protect data

Ulster Wildlife understands that our supporters have trusted us with their personal information and we will never sell our supporters' information to another organisation or individual. Our supporters have the opportunity to opt out of any existing communications by any method at any time. Opting out does not affect all membership mailings, some of which are a legal requirement (e.g. Direct Debit advance notice letters).

Our Privacy Notice for Members and Supporters is available on our website at www.ulsterwildlife.org/privacynotice

Our complaints policy

Any concerns about Ulster Wildlife's fundraising practices can be raised through our complaints procedure. Our complaints procedure is available on our website at www.ulsterwildlife.org/Complaints.



Equal Opportunities and Diversity

Ulster Wildlife aims to be an employer of choice, for people from different backgrounds and through our Equality in the Workplace policy, we promote respect for the individual and equality of opportunity.

Our aim is for our workforce to be truly representative of all sections of the wider community and for each employee to feel respected and able to give of their best. Within Ulster Wildlife there is respect for promotion and protection of each individual's human rights.

Ulster Wildlife promotes being at ease with all aspects of diversity, built on fairness and respect for all. Decisions about recruitment and selection, promotion, training or any other benefit are made objectively and without unlawful discrimination.

Ulster Wildlife recognises that such a policy is not only good management practice, but that it also makes good sense. Our Equality in the Workplace policy helps all those who work for us to develop their full potential and ensure that the talents and resources of the workforce are utilised to fully maximise the efficiency of the organisation.

Sustainability

Environmental sustainability improvements in the 2018/19 year saw Ulster Wildlife move from Green to Bronze in the NI Environmental Benchmarking Survey. In house we have continued to make improvements – we have switched to refillable cleaning products which dramatically cut plastic waste.

Wider network

Ulster Wildlife is part of a collective of 46 Wildlife Trusts, represented nationally by The Royal Society for Wildlife Trusts (RSWT). The Wildlife Trusts collectively, act together where appropriate, in key policy areas and campaigns.

Financial Management

Financial Reserves Policy

Ulster Wildlife, in common with most charities, has an objective to set aside sufficient financial reserves to fund working capital and meet unexpected events, mainly in relation to the funding of our conservation activities. This is especially important as we increase the number and complexity of projects, including those where the grant funding is denominated in foreign currency.

To achieve this objective, the trustees seek to set aside financial reserves amounting to six months unrestricted payroll and support costs, which currently amounts to £317k.

The balance on restricted reserves at 31 March 2019 is £770k. After deduction of unrestricted fixed assets, unrestricted financial reserves amount to £352k which meets that objective.

Investment Policy

Ulster Wildlife does not have investments apart from cash balances held on short term deposit. The policy is to safeguard cash in a manner which minimises risk but seeks to achieve a satisfactory level of return.

In line with this aim, cash balances will be placed in short term cash deposits in UK based banks with a credit rating of P1/P2 (Moody's) or equivalent.

Ulster Wildlife will seek to spread deposits over a number of institutions.

Remuneration Policy

Pay for all staff is determined by a job evaluation system which places the role on one of eight pay scales. Inflation awards, which are currently capped at 2%, reflecting the current economic climate, are dependent on affordability within the unrestricted operational budget.

Benchmarking of payscales is undertaken periodically.

Advisors, Senior Personnel and Administrative Details

Auditors	DNT Chartered Accountants Ormeau House 91-97 Ormeau Road Belfast BT7 1SH
Bankers	Danske Bank Belfast Finance Centre PO Box 183 Donegall Square West Belfast BT1 6JS
Solicitors	Edwards & Co. 28 Hill Street Belfast BT1 2LA
Company Secretary	Jennifer Fulton
Senior Management Team	Jennifer Fulton Chief Executive Dawn Miskelly Operations Director Rosalind McSparron (Retired in December 2019) Corporate Services Manager Niamh Hart Finance Manager
Charity Registration Number	NIC 101848
Company Registration Number	NI12711
Registered Office and Operational Address	McClelland House 10 Heron Road Belfast BT3 9LE

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Ulster Wildlife Trust

We have audited the financial statements of Ulster Wildlife Trust for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing(UK) (ISAs(UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a misstatement of this other information, we are required to report this fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

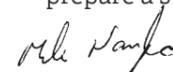
- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.



Mr M Nangle (Senior Statutory Auditor) For and on behalf of **DNTCA Limited Ormeau House 91-97 Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 1SH**

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2019

		2019	2018		
	Notes	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations & Legacies	3	410,872	3,668	414,540	412,388
Conservation activities	4	1,006	926,609	927,615	948,530
Agri-environment payments		40,389	5,310	45,699	44,958
Charitable activities-landfill contributions	5	-	281,505	281,505	381,748
Education & training activities	6	13,173	374,196	387,369	392,257
Interest received	7	4,279	4,979	9,258	6,809
Other Income	8	52,171	52,433	104,604	83,986
TOTAL INCOME		521,890	1,648,700	2,170,590	2,270,676
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds	9	101,143	6,140	107,283	102,114
Charitable Activities	10	529,617	1,940,345	2,469,962	2,052,954
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		630,760	1,946,485	2,577,245	2,155,068
NET INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS		(108,870)	(297,785)	(406,655)	115,608
Gains/(losses) from foreign exchange		(11,187)	-	(11,187)	-
Transfers between funds	14	151,478	(151,478)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		31,421	(449,263)	(417,842)	115,608
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
Total funds at 1 April 2018		738,460	1,884,675	2,623,135	2,507,527
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2019		769,881	1,435,412	2,205,293	2,623,135

The notes on pages 46 to 53 form part of these financial statements. The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

Statement of Financial Position at 31 March 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2019 Total Funds £	2018 Total Funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	16	417,417	488,143	905,560	907,389
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	17	67,303	98,568	165,871	146,027
Cash at bank and in hand		428,749	1,247,967	1,676,716	2,113,571
		496,052	1,346,535	1,842,587	2,259,598
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	18	132,462	86,733	219,195	213,981
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		363,590	1,259,802	1,623,392	2,045,617
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		781,007	1,747,945	2,528,952	2,953,006
CREDITORS due in more than 1 year					
Capital Grants	19	11,126	312,533	323,659	329,871
		769,881	1,435,412	2,205,293	2,623,135
RESERVES					
General Fund	20	769,881	-	769,881	738,460
Restricted Funds	21	-	1,435,412	1,435,412	1,884,675
		769,881	1,435,412	2,205,293	2,623,135

These financial statements were approved and signed by the members of the Board and authorised for issue on 22 August 2019.



Ken Brundle, Chairman



David Hendron, Honorary Treasurer

The notes on pages 46 to 53 form part of these financial statements. Company Registration Number: NI 12711

Statement of Cash Flows for year ending 31 March 2019

	2019 £	2018 £
Cash Flows from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure)	(406,655)	115,608
<i>Adjustments for</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	28,116	27,373
Release of deferred capital grant	(6,212)	(8,769)
(Increase)/Decrease in Trade and Other Debtors	(19,844)	81,412
Increase/(Decrease) in Trade and other Creditors	5,213	(9,601)
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	(399,382)	206,023
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(26,286)	(33,655)
Net cash used in investing activities	(26,286)	(33,655)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(425,668)	172,368
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements	(11,187)	1,941,203
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	1,676,716	2,113,571

Notes to the Accounts

1 Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and the Charities Act 2008.

2 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use, at the discretion of the trustees, to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service.

These are classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it is regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by the charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Depreciation

Purchased assets, which individually exceed £1000 at cost are included in the balance sheet at historic cost less depreciation and any impairment in accordance with FRS 102.

Fixed Assets are depreciated over the period of their useful lives as follows:

Land	not depreciated
Buildings	2.5% straight line
Equipment	10% straight line
Computers	25% straight line
Vehicles - cars and vans	15% straight line

Depreciation for specialist conservation equipment with limited resale value would normally be depreciated over the lifetime of the project in which they are used.

Grants

Government and other grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are not recognised until there is reasonable assurance that the charity will comply with the conditions attaching to them and the grants will be received.

Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction.

Pensions

Ulster Wildlife operates a defined contribution pension scheme and contributes to the scheme at a maximum rate of 7% of salary.

Notes to the Accounts

3 Donations & legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Unrestricted Funds 2018 £	Restricted Funds 2018 £
Legacy & in memory giving	5,684	-	16,805	-
Membership contributions inc. gift aid	385,714	-	375,902	-
Corporate support	14,383	-	15,850	-
Other gifts & donations	5,091	3,668	3,831	-
	410,872	3,668	412,388	-

4 Conservation Grants

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Unrestricted Funds 2018 £	Restricted Funds 2018 £
Government grants	-	174,756	-	210,588
Environmental Farming Scheme	-	59,687	-	-
Capital grant credit	1,006	5,206	2,846	5,923
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	74,654	-	126,886
Ministry of Defence	-	8,123	-	16,381
EU - Interreg VA	-	277,167	-	295,354
EU - LIFE14	-	136,023	-	-
Tubney Charitable Trust	-	-	-	1,553
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	122,953	-	183,773
Biffa Award	-	26,370	-	17,746
Alpha Programme - Groundwork	-	18,917	-	31,052
AES UK & Ireland	-	16,727	-	26,988
Landfill Communities Fund	-	3,240	-	7,548
Other	-	2,786	-	21,892
	1,006	926,609	2,846	945,684

Notes to the Accounts

5 Landfill environmental projects

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	2019	2019	2018	2018
	£	£	£	£
Landfill contributions received		281,505		381,748
		281,505		381,748
Expenditure				
Entrust administration fee	-	7,724	-	8,596
Direct project expenditure	-	720,838	-	476,267
Direct Costs	20,854	-	31,730	-
	20,854	728,562	31,730	484,863

6 Education & Training Grants and Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	2019	2019	2018	2018
	£	£	£	£
Big Lottery Fund (Our Environment Our Future)	-	200,882	-	180,096
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	92,092	-	126,595
Belfast City Council	-	79,805	-	79,143
Other	13,173	1,417	3,081	3,342
	13,173	374,196	3,081	389,176

7 Interest received

Interest received in Restricted Funds is the interest earned on landfill tax receipts held prior to disbursement and interest received which is used to fund expenditure on nature reserves. Interest received in unrestricted funds is bank interest earned on other cash balances.

Notes to the Accounts

8 Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	2019	2019	2018	2018
	£	£	£	£
Consultancy	23,531	32,000	15,701	26,772
Sundry income	28,640	20,433	26,281	15,232
	52,171	52,433	41,982	42,004

9 Expenditure on raising donations & legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	2019	2019	2018	2018
	£	£	£	£
Travel	9,429	-	8,384	-
Venue Costs	4,462	-	4,808	-
Professional fees	1,629	6,140	2,802	-
Printed materials, misc	2,291	-	2,930	-
Wages & salary costs	83,332	-	83,190	-
	101,143	6,140	102,114	-

10 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2019	2019	2019	2018
	£	£	£	£
Landfill environmental projects	20,854	728,562	749,416	516,593
Nature Conservation	143,017	869,005	1,012,022	883,240
Environmental Education & Training	-	336,586	336,586	335,611
Membership Support Costs	116,035	-	116,035	89,613
Organisation Support Costs	220,407	-	220,407	192,894
Depreciation	12 21,924	6,192	28,116	27,373
Bank Interest & Charges	4,052	-	4,052	3,698
Auditors remuneration	3,328	-	3,328	3,932
	529,617	1,940,345	2,469,962	2,052,954

Notes to the Accounts

11 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Staff Costs	Other direct costs	2019	2018
	£	£	£	£
Landfill environmental projects	21,960	727,456	749,416	516,593
Nature Conservation	595,230	416,792	1,012,022	883,240
Environmental Education	187,916	148,670	336,586	335,611
Membership Support Costs	41,780	74,255	116,035	89,613
Organisation Support Costs	138,266	82,141	220,407	192,894
Other - depreciation, bank charges, audit.	-	35,496	35,496	35,003
	<u>985,152</u>	<u>1,484,810</u>	<u>2,469,962</u>	<u>2,052,954</u>

Other Direct Costs

	Landfill Envir. Projects	Nature Conservation	Environmental Education	Membership & Organisation Support Costs	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Direct project costs	720,871	105,372	117,097	26,768	970,108
Premises costs	4,718	16,739	1,643	31,095	54,195
Postage, printing & stationery	-	4,423	5,645	39,577	49,645
Staff travel and vehicle costs	1,867	62,868	11,617	5,304	81,656
Contracted services	-	217,226	7,951	23,287	248,464
Staff training	-	3,303	1,148	889	5,340
Council Costs	-	-	-	8,070	8,070
Information Technology	-	6,861	3,569	21,406	31,836
	<u>727,456</u>	<u>416,792</u>	<u>148,670</u>	<u>156,396</u>	<u>1,449,314</u>

12 Depreciation

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	2019	2019	2018	2018
	£	£	£	£
Motor vehicles	7,061	4,410	3,913	3,425
Equipment	6,548	1,782	9,221	1,782
Buildings	8,315	-	8,315	717
	<u>21,924</u>	<u>6,192</u>	<u>21,449</u>	<u>5,924</u>

Notes to the Accounts

13 Staff Costs

	2019	2018
	£	£
Salaries and wages	931,314	879,672
Social Security Costs	77,562	72,271
Pension Contributions	59,608	53,174
	<u>1,068,484</u>	<u>1,005,117</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000. The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents, was 35. (2017- 29). The key management personnel comprise the trustees and the members of the senior management team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel was £143,052. (2017: £138,760).

14 Transfer between Funds

	2019	2018
	£	£
Landfill contribution to organisation support costs	28,545	31,730
Project contribution to organisation support costs	122,933	110,601
Conservation work at Glendun	-	2,976
	<u>151,478</u>	<u>145,307</u>

15 Board remuneration and related party transactions

No members of the Board received any remuneration during the year. Travel and subsistence costs amounting to £842 were paid on behalf of 3 Board Members during the year (2018 - £0). No travel and subsistence costs were reimbursed to Board Members (2018 - £321, 1 member).

16 Fixed Assets

	Nature Reserves	Land & Buildings	Motor Vehicles	Equipment & Computers	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£	£
COST OR VALUATION					
At 1 April 2018	349,372	599,287	84,707	90,468	1,123,834
Additions	-	-	26,286	-	26,286
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2019	<u>349,372</u>	<u>599,287</u>	<u>110,993</u>	<u>90,468</u>	<u>1,150,120</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2018	-	139,573	36,848	40,023	216,444
Charge for year	-	8,315	11,471	8,330	28,116
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2019	<u>-</u>	<u>147,888</u>	<u>48,319</u>	<u>48,354</u>	<u>244,560</u>
NBV at 31 March 2019	349,372	451,399	62,674	42,114	905,560
including restricted assets of	309,372	150,000	27,583	1,188	488,143

Glendun farm has been included at probate value of £150,000.

Notes to the Accounts

17 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Unrestricted Funds 2018 £	Restricted Funds 2018 £
Debtors and prepayments	40,876	15,882	23,718	17,006
Grants	9,000	82,686	4,685	83,532
Tax refunds due	17,427	-	17,086	-
	<u>67,303</u>	<u>98,568</u>	<u>45,489</u>	<u>100,538</u>

18 Creditors falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Unrestricted Funds 2018 £	Restricted Funds 2018 £
Sundry creditors and accrued expenditure	132,462	86,733	105,247	108,734

19 Creditors falling due after more than 1 year

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Unrestricted Funds 2018 £	Restricted Funds 2018 £
Capital grants	11,126	312,533	12,132	317,739

20 Movement on unrestricted funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Unrestricted Funds 2018 £
Balance at 1 April 2018	738,460	672,311
Surplus for the year	31,421	66,149
Balance at 31 March 2019	<u>769,881</u>	<u>738,460</u>

Notes to the Accounts

21 Movement on restricted funds

	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2018 £
Opening balance	1,884,675	1,835,215
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(449,263)	49,460
Closing balance	<u>1,435,412</u>	<u>1,884,675</u>

Some funders pay in advance and other funders issue payment only after the expenditure has been incurred. The movement on restricted funds in any year is a result of timing differences between receipts of grants for restricted projects and the related expenditure.

22 Contingent Liability

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the charity fails to comply with the terms of the relevant letters of offer.

23 Taxation

As a charity, Ulster Wildlife Trust is exempt from tax on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Trust.

24 Company Status

Ulster Wildlife Trust Limited is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.



**Ulster
Wildlife**

part of
The Wildlife Trusts 

**For further information,
visit www.ulsterwildlife.org
or Email: info@ulsterwildlife.org**

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Back Cover - **Red Squirrel** © Irene Mei

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