



Engaging local communities

A key aim of the project is to encourage local people to learn more about the marine environment, feel connected to the Firth of Forth and inspired to make positive change. We have achieved this through a diverse and creative programme of community events.

We have run community events, lectures, exhibitions and drop-in sessions. For those who desire a deeper dive, we've offered guided walks, training workshops and the opportunity to get involved with citizen science and active restoration; helping to instil a sense of stewardship of the Forth environment.

Volunteering plays an important role in helping to restore oysters and seagrass. We developed a variety of volunteering pathways which include surveying, monitoring, seagrass seed processing and oyster biosecurity days. The contribution of volunteers to the project has been phenomenal and we appreciate everyone who has given their time.

Ensuring that our events are both free and accessible is important. We make sure to offer a variety of opportunities, both in person and online, use connections through our project partners and local groups who have deep roots in their community, and offer kit and transport where needed. These approaches have enabled us to engage with a diverse range of audiences, working with groups from different backgrounds and with different life experiences.

To gain insightful feedback and monitor the effectiveness of our engagement work, we invite all participants to share feedback through a survey form. This data shows us who regularly attends our events, as well as how we have increased the skills and knowledge base of local people.

