



## Planting the Restoration Forth seed

Restoration Forth grew from a seed planted by the Edinburgh Shoreline project, who were concerned about the impact of decades of neglect on the city's coast. They decided action was needed. In the words of Edinburgh Shoreline: ***'Edinburgh had turned its back on the sea'***.

The Firth of Forth had lost many of its vital marine resources, related livelihoods, and continues to face significant coastal development pressures and threats.

Edinburgh Shoreline began to find a fascinating and often unknown history, as well as rich plant and animal life surviving against the odds in unexpected places. Conversations with like-minded organisations resulted in the idea to collaborate to try to restore the abundance of the Firth of Forth's marine resources. The Restoration Forth partnership was born.

The partnership began looking at existing research, consulting local communities and meeting experts in marine and coastal ecology. This was to better understand the impacts of over-exploitation, pollution and the climate and biodiversity crises; and to develop a vision for the restoration of the Firth of Forth. **We decided to restore two key species: oysters and seagrass.**

