

COMMITTED TO  
A SUSTAINABLE  
FUTURE



## Customer / Client

Ministry of Defence (MOD) and  
Defence Estates (DE).

## Project

Community Engagement.  
As part of our commitment  
to sustainability, under the  
RPC(S) Scotland contract we  
have organised a number of  
voluntary conservation days for  
staff to take part in.



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## Challenge

As a prime contractor to the MOD (one of the largest landowners in Britain), we take our commitment to the environment seriously. Working on the defence estate throughout Scotland, we recognise that we have the potential to impact on communities in Scotland. Sustainability processes are embedded within our operations and we believe in contributing to conservation and the wider sustainability agenda.

Part of our community engagement plan involves voluntary conservation days for staff, amounting to 140 hours over the past year.

## Solution

During May 2010, three voluntary days were organised as part of a Sustainability campaign to raise awareness amongst RPC(S) staff.

### **Torry Bay Local Nature Reserve (Fife): Creation of an area of wildflower meadow**

Torry Bay, a Local Nature Reserve since 1996, was created to conserve habitats and wildlife and to promote environmental education. It is a site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and part of the Firth of Forth Special Protection Area (SPA).

On the 11th May a team from RPCS removed turf and erected a fence to create an area for wildflower planting, contributing to local biodiversity by attracting bumblebees, birds and various other types of wildlife. They also surveyed an area of the reserve for nesting birds to help the Countryside Ranger manage the site.

### **Peaton Hill Local Nature Reserve (Garelochhead): Path Construction**

Peaton Hill is an MOD Community Nature Reserve. The concept was developed during an annual MOD Biodiversity event and received funding from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).

In 2009, the Nature Reserve Project won the Sanctuary Silver Otter award. Maintenance and on-going improvement is essential to ensure the safeguarding and effective management of the site, used by local schools, churches, residents of surrounding communities and walkers.

In May a team of RPC (Scotland) and Turner Facilities Management employees volunteered to create a path through and around the reserve, linking an educational log cabin with other areas and providing space for benches and educational placards.

This has become a project which we will continue to support - in fact on 23rd September 2010 another group of volunteers (which included TES and members of their supply chain including Spie Matthew Hall, Wates and Converteam) completed tacking of the wooden walkways and more path construction.

### **Grant Park (Grantown on Spey): Pond Creation**

To contribute to the biodiversity agenda in the North of Scotland, on the 19th May our team began construction of the wildlife pond in Grant Park which will be completed (and used for pond dipping and other fun activities) by the local primary school. The work was of great benefit to biodiversity and to the local community.

The pond that we created will provide habitat for numerous species as well as enjoyment for the local community for years to come.

### **Client Benefit**

Incorporating sustainability into RPC (Scotland) brings a number of benefits both to the client and to our organisation:

- Making a contribution to local communities
- Contributing to conservation and biodiversity
- Increasing awareness of the sustainability agenda within both organisations and the RPC (Scotland)
- Minimising risks by adopting best practice in environmental protection and compliance
- Increased staff morale

There are also cost benefits that can be gained over the long term by adopting more efficient equipment and processes.



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