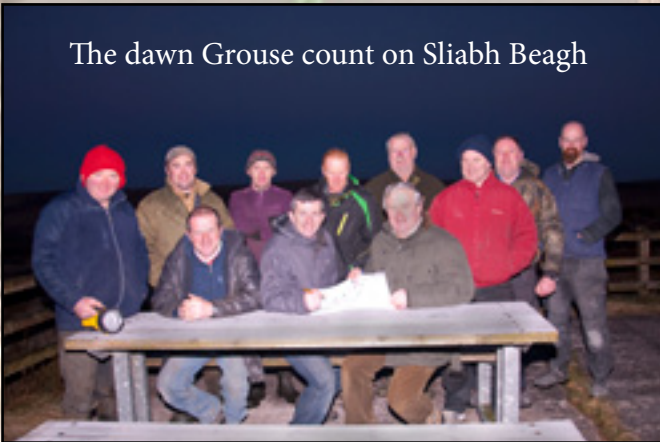




Controlling invasive fauna on the river banks



Our native Red Squirrel feeding programme



The dawn Grouse count on Sliabh Beagh

The Natural Environment

Public awareness of the natural environment seems to have faded into the background of our busy lives, we all spend less time outside, farming methods have changed dramatically, knowledge has been lost, and the natural habitats of our native wildlife have suffered as a result.

Our aim is to build awareness of the problems in schools and local community groups, educating people young and old how they can help build our wildlife back up to strength before some of it is gone forever.

By visiting schools and local groups we hope to build up our volunteers creating custodians, not just for now but into the future, keeping the rich diversity of the Blackwater catchment area alive.

You too can play a vital part.

River Blackwater Catchment Trust

Chairman - Dan Curley 00353 (0) 47 84838

Secretary - Tom Woods 044 (0) 77 43550804

Email - info@blackwatercatchmenttrust.com

Website - blackwatercatchmenttrust.com



The River Blackwater Catchment Trust (RBCT)

We are a volunteer based organisation formed to address the preservation and conservation of wildlife and its habitat within the catchment area of the River Blackwater from its mountain beginnings as a brook to the formidable river which enters Lough Neagh. We hope to educate our communities in the value of our river and its wider catchment area and to involve them in the protection of this fragile environment.

If you would like to help please volunteer at one of our events, via our website or contact us through the details listed on the back page.

Rivers

The River Blackwater Catchment Area

This is an extremely large area covering the Blackwater River itself and all the subsidiary waterways that feed the river to Lough Neagh. Water quality, wildlife/fish breeding areas and control of invasive species are all either ongoing or on the agenda for these areas. Expect Trout, Salmon Otters, Kingfishers and many more here.

Forests

The forested area between Favour Royal and Mullaghfad Forest is our main area of interest for our native Red Squirrel. We have feeding stations out in these areas and are hoping to help increase numbers of this beautiful little mammal. As well as the squirrel we hope to help one of its neighbours, and one of the reasons the squirrels survive, the Pine Marten

Mountain Habitat

Sliabh Beagh is a wildlife rich bog and heather sanctuary and we are working hard to make sure it stays that way. No less than five counties can be seen from the top of this mountain and you can expect to find Hares, Red Grouse, Meadow Pipits, Hen Harriers and many other species. The annual Dawn grouse count is a great chance to see this habitat as the sunrise brings it to life.

