

Proposed River Ythan Habitat Improvement Works 2022

A suite of restoration activities is available depending upon the priorities of the Ythan DSFB. The Don DSFB under the SLA can undertake, the following

Erosion protection using willow and woody brash,

Obstacle clearance

Gravel cleaning and Ranunculus removal

Habitat surveys (to determine presence of blockages or assess future restoration activities)

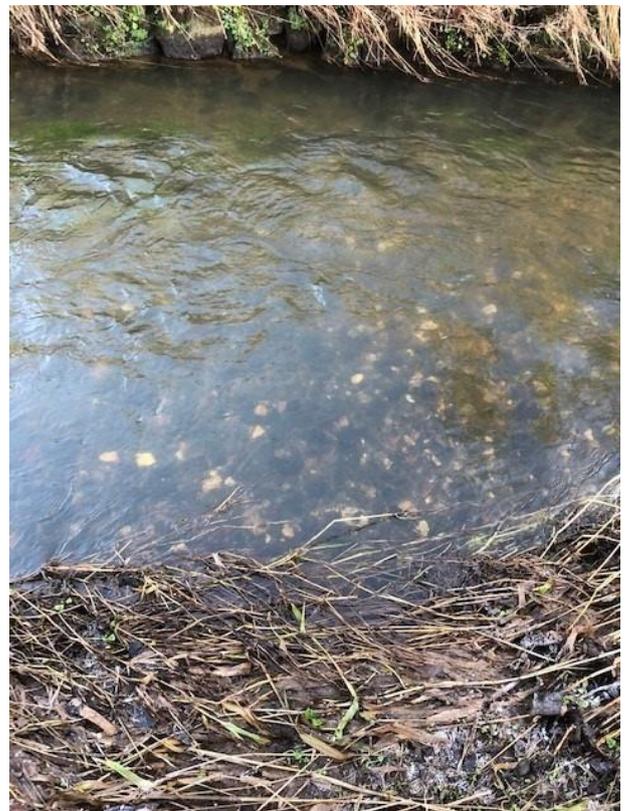
1. Erosion Protection

Over the past two years the section on stream bank on the Ebrie Burn at Glenebrie House Grid Reference NJ 93614 40148, the location is not far down stream from Mill of Elrick as reference point. Approximately 4ft has been taken away by flood waters and my biggest fear is losing valuable spawning habitat due to over widening of this section of the stream, as is there are salmon redds at this site as Fig 2 below shows.

Fig 1, Bank Erosion



Fig 2, Salmon Redd at Erosion Site



The length of the bank erosion is 18 meters, to repair this bank I would use willow posts and woody brash, which is plentiful on site due to the storm damaged caused by the recent storm.

Estimated time to complete the bank repair would be 6-to-7-man days. Permission has been granted from the owners of Glenebriehouse to use any materials needed for the repair from their land.

2. Obstacle clearance

On the Fourdon Burn Grid Reference NJ 73348 36426 several trees came down during Storm Arwen and have caused a major blockage in the stream at one of the Redd counting areas. See fig 1 below.

Estimated time to clear the blockage would be 2 staff over 3 days = 6 man days.

Fig 3, Tree blockage.



3. Gravel Cleaning and Ranunculus removal

Proposed clearing of Ranunculus with gravel cleaning using leaf blower at sites on the Mainstem at Methlick, Ebrie and Little Water on existing redd counting areas.

4. Habitat surveys

While carrying out Redd counts blockages were observed following Storm Arwen, the potential for other blockages to exist is high and staff could undertake surveys to identify locations. Recommended that volunteers survey for these locations and staff undertake clearance.

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