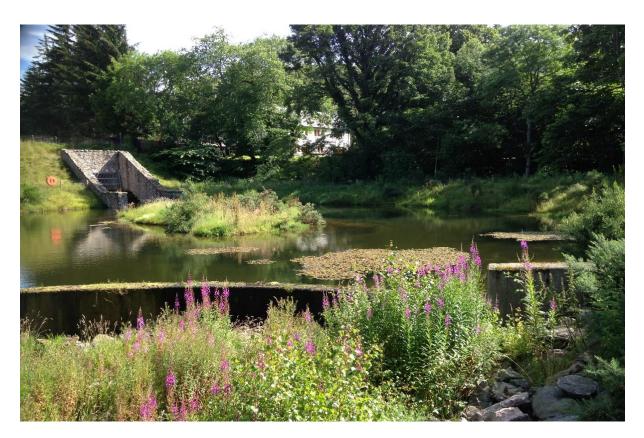
# The role of SuDS as habitats and as part of wildlife corridors

Marcia Rae









### **Scottish Natural Heritage**

#### Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba



Improving biodiversity



Providing amenity



 Connecting with the local environment

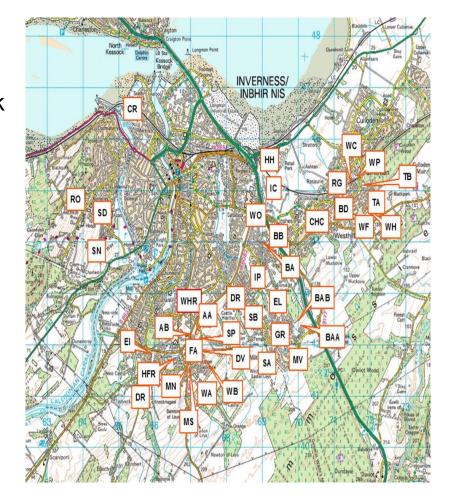






## What we did.....

- Started in 2010 to build on other work
- Identified ponds
- Surveyed for amphibian breeding
- Looked at characteristics of ponds
- Habitat connectivity









DNA sampling











Community engagement



STEM event

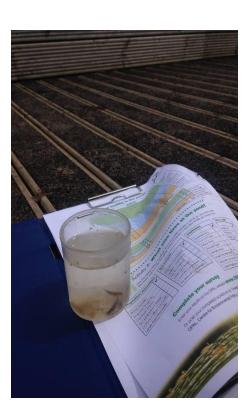




University of **Salford** 



 >100 people attended local public event



 158 pupils in Inverness helped conduct water quality surveys

#### Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba







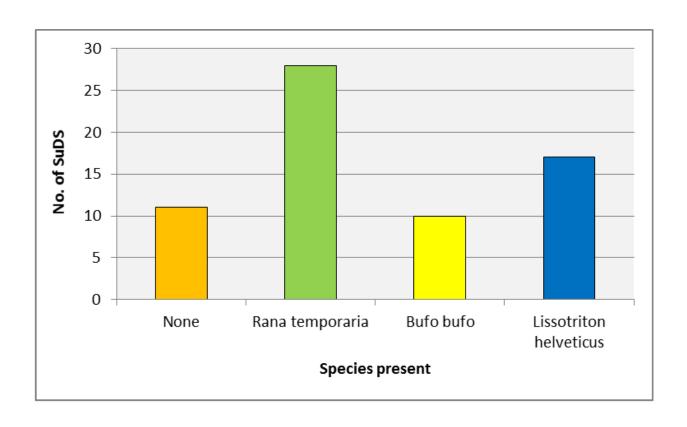




- Widely observed
- Easily accessible
- No specialist equipment required



# Initial results.....









### Scottish Natural Heritage Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba









# Issues raised.....

Ownership









### Maintenance









### **Scottish Natural Heritage**

#### Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba











# Star pond......

- No fencing or warning signs
- Gently sloping sides
- Highest number of frog spawn and newts recorded
- Maintenance paid for by residents









### In conclusion.....

- SuDS support amphibian populations and other wildlife
- They have the potential to provide added amenity, education and biodiversity to the city environment
- Information on ownership and maintenance needs to be easier to find















#### Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

Inverness SuDS Conference

27<sup>th</sup> November 0930 – 1500

Highland Council HQ Glenurquhart Road Inverness IV3 5NX

To book contact Caroline Vawdrey at:

highlandenvironmentforum@gmail.com





