



# RRC Site Visit Series

## Allt Lorgy, Highlands, Scotland

### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022



Join us at the Allt Lorgy in the Scottish Highlands to find out more about this project which aimed to restore natural physical processes to benefit morphology and habitats.



**Site visit lead**  
Penny Lawson (Spey Catchment Initiative)  
Hamish Moir (cbec)  
Duncan Ferguson (Spey Fishery Board)



## The Project

This project was the winner of the reach-scale award of the 2020 UK River Prize. The Allt Lorgy is a typical upland spate burn that, in the late 1980s, was significantly managed for agricultural purposes (e.g. artificial embankments, rock bank revetments and in-channel boulder grade control).

The project is based on restoring the morphology and associated habitats of a 1km section of river and its adjoining floodplain. It has re-established the fundamental physical processes that drive the evolution of the river's form and the associated benefits for instream, riparian and floodplain ecology. Rather than designing a specific channel configuration, the approach aimed to kick start natural processes so that the river re-establishes a natural equilibrium with increased physical diversity and floodplain connection.

This involved the removal of artificial constraints that had simplified the watercourse to a straightened single thread. Over 250m of artificial embankments were removed and in-stream boulders were replaced with large wood structures.

This work has resulted in a self-sustaining system; enhanced lateral channel migration has begun the natural recruitment of riparian trees into the watercourse which further invigorates the dynamic change. The majority of the funding was provided by the Water Environment Fund (SEPA) and Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA).

[Find out more](#)

## Information

This site visit is **FREE free to RRC members**. If space is available, non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of £30. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. To book a place please complete a booking form at the [link here](#). Booking closes when all spaces are allocated.

- The visit will start at 10:00 and end roughly 15:00. This will include time for a packed lunch (not supplied).
- There will also be an indoor session to discuss some of the technical aspects and survey and monitoring outputs. **Government Covid-19 guidelines at the time will be enforced** (RRC will provide more information closer to the time).
- **Car-sharing will be necessary** for the group to access the site. Please be prepared to car-share with others. There is parking available at Carrbridge, a 10 minute drive from the site.
- Wellington boots and waterproof clothing are necessary as there will be wet, boggy and uneven ground to cross.
- There are toilets at the car park at Carrbridge.

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