



Annual Report and Accounts 2019/2020



Protecting freshwater life for everyone to enjoy

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The front cover of our report shows fen restoration and newt conservation work at Hinksey Heights, Oxfordshire.

Freshwater Habitats Trust – Protecting freshwater life for everyone

Freshwater Habitats Trust began life in 1988 as Pond Action with the aim of ensuring the future of our freshwater wildlife. Over the last 30 years we may have changed our name but our commitment to protecting freshwater habitats has gone from strength to strength, as seen in our activities and achievements during 2019. We continue to work with a wide range of organisations and people to protect the biodiversity of life in freshwater habitats. We've made new discoveries about what makes freshwater habitats special, how best to protect them and above all tried to make a practical difference on the ground. Our long-term projects are producing meaningful and tangible results and freshwater habitats and their wildlife are starting to receive the recognition they merit.

Freshwater Habitats Trust is highly strategic and we target our work where evidence suggests it will be most effective, to help us achieve our aim ***to protect freshwater life for everyone to enjoy.***

Our organisation's strategic vision is to achieve three primary goals for freshwater:

- **Species** – All threatened freshwater plants and animals have recovered and developed sustainable populations.
- **Habitats** – The UK has a functioning network of freshwater habitats: The Freshwater Network.
- **People** – People value freshwater habitats and their wildlife.



One of our goals is that people value freshwater habitats - working with volunteers on projects helps us with our aim

The steps we are focusing on to get there are:

- **Identify what we have** – locate the Important Freshwater Areas (IFAs) in the UK.
- **Protect the best habitats** – ensure that important areas are recognised and protected.
- **Species conservation** – protect our most threatened freshwater plants and animals.
- **Expand and connect** – build out from the high quality areas.

Our work in all areas from policy, practical projects, partnership and outreach, to monitoring and research is always focused on helping us achieve this vision.

Overview

2019/20 saw us involved in a range of practical projects, both existing and new, important applied research and a continuing role in policy development.

Highlights of the year included the continued support for the Newt Conservation Partnership which has now created nearly 70 new high quality ponds for Great Crested Newts across the South Midlands as part of the government's District Level Licensing scheme. Equally important has been our continued wide-ranging work in the New Forest National Park, one of the UK's most important landscapes for freshwater biodiversity. Our work in the Forest is providing a model for how to protect high quality freshwater habitats, especially the smaller waters which are a vital but often neglected part of water management.



The Newt Conservation Partnership shows off a pond created in Shabbington Woods SSSI under the Great Crested Newt District Licensing scheme

Our research saw the publication of nine years of work demonstrating clearly the importance of clean water pond creation for the protection of freshwater biodiversity. The work showed that clean water ponds provided one of the most effective measures so far developed for increasing freshwater biodiversity in farmed landscapes.

We continued working at landscape level in a number of catchments with a particular focus on the New Forest, Oxfordshire and in the South Midlands from Buckinghamshire to Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire.

In the New Forest we undertook a wide range of practical projects in partnership with the Environment Agency and New Forest National Park Authority.

We promoted the results of our national resurvey of high quality ponds, which showed how pond quality had declined since the early 1990s in the highest quality, best protected, landscapes.

We also had a busy year setting up new large projects including the EU funded 'Ponderful' research project, the East-West Rail landscape freshwater biodiversity project, the Pitsford Reservoir Water Friendly Farming project with Anglian Water and the Environment Agency, and the first stages of the Freshwater Network programme. We worked with a range of colleagues interested in small waters to establish the foundations for a new research programme on small waters in association with Defra and other government agencies.

We completed a new Important Freshwater Areas (IFAs) analysis for the East West Rail project area in Buckinghamshire, and continued work on Important Freshwater Area analyses for Oxfordshire, the R. Rye catchment in Yorkshire and the R. Thame catchment in Oxfordshire, all of which are approaching completion.

We also continued work with the European Pond Conservation Network. We gave talks at the national conference 'Pond ecology and conservation in the Anthropocene' held at the University of Huddersfield in May 2019, which we expect to lead to further research publications.

The final weeks of 2019/20 were dominated by the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis and delayed some of our practical and volunteer engagement projects. The full impact of the virus will probably not be known for several years - as one of a wide network of conservation charities we wrote to the Prime Minister in April 2020 to call for a true 'green recovery' from the virus, setting the world on a new course to a freshwater-friendly future.

Our activities in 2019/20

People, Ponds and Water project - Legacy work

Although our National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) project **People, Ponds and Water** finished in 2018, the main project aims continued to play a central role in our work during 2019/20 with the help of various funders and supporters.

The three main project aims of the People, Ponds and Water project were:

- Gathering evidence on status and trends in freshwater habitats and species
- Protecting the best freshwater habitats
- Championing freshwater biodiversity.

In order to achieve these aims the People Ponds and Water project had **three overlapping project elements**:

- PondNet
- Flagship Ponds
- Clean Water for Wildlife.

In 2019/20 our work on these three elements has built on the legacy of the original NLHF-funded project.

PondNet - The aim of this element of the project was to create a volunteer survey network to collect statistically robust data to identify trends in pond quality and pond species, including uncommon plants and animals. Survey methodologies were standardised and included environmental metrics; giving information to help explain the reasons for changes in biological quality, and ultimately help to guide the direction of freshwater policy and practice. As part of this project, over the last 5 years, working with Defra, Natural England and Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust; Freshwater Habitats Trust has established the world's first national, volunteer-based, eDNA monitoring programme for a protected species, the Great Crested Newt. 2019/20 saw the completion of a fifth year of survey, visiting the same ponds annually to build a picture of status and change of this species in terms of 1 km square and pond occupancy. Whilst this is still a relatively short timescale, we can already begin to report with greater certainty on the current status of Great Crested Newts in England; and consider the opportunities and

constraints of this new citizen science approach for longer term monitoring of Great Crested Newts and other aquatic species and habitats.

Flagship Ponds – This element of the People, Ponds and Water project saw the creation of a network of some of the most important, and highest quality, pond sites in England and Wales, known to support populations of species under threat. We helped local communities develop sustainable plans for these sites enabling them to undertake monitoring, management and pond creation to help species recovery. 2019/20 has seen us to continue to support Flagship Ponds at various sites in the New Forest, on National Trust properties around England and Wales and in Oxfordshire at the Cothill Fen site. We saw the reappearance of one of Britain’s rarest water plants, Starfruit, during the year as a result of carefully planned and organised work on one of its few remaining sites in England, a National Trust heath in Surrey.

Clean Water for Wildlife – The aim of this element of the original People, Ponds and Water project was to create a citizen science survey to raise awareness of the true extent of nutrient pollution, and identify clean water habitats in England and Wales, with the ultimate aim of helping to protect biodiversity. Nutrient pollution is invisible, so often doesn’t seem ‘real’ to people. Using quick kits made it possible for people to easily ‘see’ pollution for the first time and we have continued to apply this approach in a range of our projects. In 2019/20 we have continued to apply the Clean Water for Wildlife concept by, for example, working with National Trust staff and volunteers to train them to carry out clean water surveys. We also applied this approach working with farmers in Oxfordshire, assessing levels of nutrient pollution as part of preparatory work to develop new practical projects to protect existing and create new freshwater habitats on their land.



We have been developing our medicinal leech conservation project this year

People, Ponds and Water-Species Project: Medicinal Leech - Work during the NLHF funded People, Ponds and Water project identified the need for a specific project focussed on Medicinal Leech. Because of their severe declines, Medicinal Leeches are a global conservation priority and listed under a raft of international legislation as needing protection. Preparation for this project began in 2019-20 and we successfully fundraised to provide the resources needed for this work. During 2020 and beyond the project will see: (1) data collation to document and understand the decline of England’s Medicinal Leeches; (2) development of an eDNA monitoring tool to allow wide volunteer engagement through surveys at sites across England; (3) collaboration with zoos to secure three populations through ‘Ark collections’ to provide a living gene bank in case of wild extinctions; (4) raising the profile of medicinal leeches through displays at three zoos and six events that engage 5000 people in their conservation; and (5) convening a collaborative workshop to define and initiate a suite of long-term conservation actions, engaging 30 partners, land managers and key volunteers.

Work with the National Trust



Volunteers trained with us at Killerton House NT to carry out clean water surveys

During the year we continued to develop our joint-working with the National Trust. The National Trust's 10 year strategy includes a number of ambitious targets for the ways in which it manages its land and delivers a healthy, beautiful, natural environment. To measure and track progress with this strategy a range of metrics and monitoring approaches are being developed - including the need to develop a monitoring strategy for the status of freshwaters across the National Trust estate.

Working with the Trust we have undertaken a range of activities to help protect freshwaters, focusing especially on small water bodies: ponds and small streams. This has included:

Volunteer Clean Water surveys: Ten training sessions were completed with National Trust staff and volunteers at National Trust properties around the country with 50 attendees. In the course of this work each of the properties used as a training centre was supplied with 50 clean water sample kits for ponds, lakes, rivers, streams and ditches within the property.

Baseline surveys: A second year of the five year planned programme of survey work was undertaken so that, by the end of the year, a total of 40 pond PSYM assessments and 40 river LEAFPACs surveys had been completed by Penny Williams and external expert Richard Lansdown. Results in Year 2 were in-line with the first year of survey with the main conclusions being that: (1) there are a small number of high quality sites on National Trust properties - notable during the year was the rediscovery of Starfruit at its only remaining native pond site (recovery achieved as part of our management work during the Flagship Ponds project); (2) the majority of freshwaters on National Trust properties are no better than the wider countryside, with degradation due to poor water quality and dominance by secondary scrub. An annual summary report is available on the Freshwater Habitats Trust website.

Ornamental lakes: As a small add on to the above, a new sub-project was undertaken during the year adopting a new approach to finding out what's living in a sample of the National Trust's ornamental lakes, using multi-species vertebrate environmental DNA (eDNA) test kits. The project tested whether non-specialists could collect samples for subsequent eDNA analysis thereby paving the way for an exciting citizen science project. We ran a 'training the trainers' session to show National Trust staff how to use the environmental DNA test kits and provided support materials for this part of the project.

Environmental DNA

We continued developing and testing the use of environmental DNA in a number of contexts during the year including pilot projects in Oxford, the New Forest, with National Trust (the ornamental lakes, noted above) and with Southern Water schools in Sussex, as well as potentially in the R. Irfon in Wales and with the Medicinal Leech.

During the year we began developing plans for a national monitoring network, focussing on smaller waters, capitalising on the use of eDNA in combination with traditional monitoring methods.

Catchment Management work

We have continued a range of work as the hosts of three catchments in the Catchment-based Approach (CaBA) programme:

- **New Forest catchment** (in partnership with the New Forest Park Authority)
- **River Ock catchment**
- **River Thames catchment** (in partnership with the River Thames Conservation Trust)

New Forest catchment

Work on the New Forest Catchment Partnership (enabled by WEIF CaBA funding) has been focussed on a range of activities:

Engagement: We took part in two event visits during the year with (1) the Environment Agency regional team, led by us, to look at evidence of diffuse and point source pollution and mitigation measures; and (2) a visit from representatives from the Dutch National Parks 'Natuurmonumenten' to Hatchet Pond, where we discussed issues, opportunities and the importance of small waters across Europe.

Sub-groups: With our Environment Agency catchment coordinator we convened two sub-groups to improve the partnership approach when addressing New Forest water issues (1) an Agricultural sub-group and (2) a Protected sites sub-group.

Practical management: Work during the year took place on four practical projects: (1) New Forest nurseries (WEIF funding) - best practice guidance for horticultural businesses in the New Forest to reduce diffuse pollution, (2) Bartley and Fletchwood sub-catchments (WEIF funding) - walkovers and investigation to identify sites for capital works to reduce diffuse pollution, remove invasive non-native species and identify sites as opportunities for introduction of Natural Flood Management measures, (3) Beaulieu Estate (WEIF funding) - capital works to install rainwater harvesting to further work started in the National Lottery Heritage Fund supported 'Our Present, Our Future' project, and (4) Hatchet Pond (WEG funding) - activities to reduce the impact of recreation and misconnect issues on an Special Area of Conservation (SAC) lake.



We work in partnership with a range of organisations on freshwater projects in the New Forest including the Environment Agency, Natural England and the New Forest National Park Authority

Strategy: We held the first meeting of the Monitoring and Evidence sub-group for the New Forest Wetland Strategy. This is developing a strategy to develop the framework for future stream restoration work in the New Forest. As the chair of the

group, we prepared an outline framework to enable the group to develop a detailed plan.

Research: Rhiannon Jones, an undergraduate at Southampton University, trialled the use of multi-species eDNA kits to monitor stream restoration projects in the New Forest. This covered 18 sites, with pre- and post-restoration sections at each site, plus monitoring using traditional methods. We also used this project to test the ability of eDNA kits to detect change in fish species composition along a river profile. The kits were supplied by us with funding from Natural England and site selection and project supervision/training was undertaken by our lead for the New Forest, Naomi Ewald.

Living Waters: Living Waters is part of the 'Our Past, Our Future' National Lottery Heritage Fund landscape partnership project in the New Forest National Park. In 2019, the third year of the project, we continued to work with local landowners to address water management and diffuse pollution issues. In addition, we worked on the restoration of connectivity for the protected European Eel along the Hartford Stream. Elver passes were installed at dams, working in collaboration with the Environment Agency, the landowner - the Beaulieu Estate - and the local angling club. Also, as part of this work we:

- overcame numerous hurdles to complete the last of the diffuse pollution measures, the installation of a manure shed at the Countryside Education Trust;
- completed follow up surveys on sites where baseline surveys took place at the start of the project;
- attended the 3-day New Forest show where we shared a stand courtesy of the Beaulieu Estate,
- ran a workshop/consultation exercise to understand the impacts and opportunities of camping activities on New Forest freshwaters.

River Ock catchment

A range of activities were undertaken in the R. Ock catchment further laying the groundwork for a large scale habitat restoration and management programme working with farmers and landowners.

We completed further site visits to farmers with support from the Environment Agency WEIF funding and began initial project designs for practical works.

We submitted with Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) proposals for the long-term management of land in the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme area and await news from the Environment Agency as we have been selected as the managers of c.60 ha of land associated with the scheme.

River Thames catchment

We continued joint catchment management activities with the River Thames Conservation Trust of which the most important was work to create a new wetland complex on the Waddesdon Estate and complete the Important Freshwater Area (IFA) for the R. Thames catchment.

Waddesdon Estate: The Waddesdon Estate wetland comprises a fish refuge and a complex of ponds and pools covering about 1.5 ha. It is the first floodplain wetland habitat creation of that scale in the catchment and will be used as a demonstration site to develop further floodplain restoration projects. This is a two-phased project, which is being led and coordinated by our partners the River Thames Conservation Trust, with the Trust as a subcontractor providing technical expertise and leading on the wetland design. In 2019, Phase 1 of the project part-dug the site, including trial holes to monitor hydrology and inform Phase 2 construction which is planned for summer 2020.

Saving Oxfords Wetland Wildlife

The overall aims of the Saving Oxford's Wetland Wildlife project are: (1) increasing people's awareness of Oxford's water environment; (2) maximising the benefits of the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme for freshwater biodiversity; and (3) engaging people in practical conservation of freshwater habitats and species.

Increasing people's awareness of the importance of freshwater biodiversity in the Oxford area: The Oxford area is a nationally critical region for freshwater biodiversity. The Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme site, on the west side of the city, has around 160,000 people living within 5 km so present a tremendous opportunity for introducing people to the water environment. We are engaging with schools, community groups and individuals by sending out eDNA and water quality test kits and undertaking walks and talks to inform and engage the public and local interest groups.

Creation and management of freshwater habitats for protected species: We have been working to restore water levels in fens which have been drained, create new clean water ponds, and bring sites back into good condition through selective removal of scrub growth and management of wetland vegetation. This work is directly benefitting the protected species, and wetland habitats which are nationally threatened. We are providing detailed management plans for these sites to ensure sustainable management in the long term.

Survey and ex-situ conservation work for priority species, assessing water pollution and raising awareness of the importance of the Oxford area for these species: The project is helping to protect and increase populations of extremely rare and threatened water plants, including Biodiversity Action Plan aquatic plants. They are being cultivated by volunteers for introduction into new areas, enhancing the number and distribution of these vulnerable wetland plants and securing their future in Oxford. Professional and citizen science plant and invertebrate surveys are being carried out to provide a baseline against which to assess the success of the project work.

Oxfordshire SSSI Fens

This project aims to restore important alkaline fen habitats at four Oxfordshire SSSI fens which are currently in poor condition due to lack of management and water pollution. During the year the project undertook four main activities:



Volunteers at Hinksey Heights clearing vegetation

Volunteer work parties: With the help of monthly volunteer work parties, at Hinksey Heights, we managed stands of Common Reed, which threaten to dominate the restoration areas.

Baseline surveys: We undertook baseline surveys of water quality, invertebrates, and plants to provide the basis for assessing the success of the restoration work.

Training: Fen plant monitoring courses were run by David Morris of the Botanical Society of the British Isles to equip others with the skills to survey this habitat type. Management work was undertaken at three sites including

Spartum and Middle Barton Fens SSSI - predominately scrub removal and tree felling.

Species translocation: Seeds of Parsley Water-dropwort and Marsh Lousewort were translocated to the first of four sites as part of the restoration effort.

Water Friendly Farming

We completed the first main scientific paper from the project, now published. We continued field work to assess the effectiveness of nature-based measures that have been introduced to enhance freshwater in the landscape, especially focusing on streams.

Further work building on the approach is currently being developed with Anglian Region of the

Environment Agency in the Wootton Brook catchment, which drains into south Northampton. We also developed a new project based on the Water Friendly Farming approach in the catchment of Pitsford Reservoir north of Northampton jointly with the Environment Agency and Anglian Water. This project will start later in 2020.



Our Water Friendly Farming research is providing evidence of the benefits achieved from creating clean water ponds

Water Friendly Farming is providing important evidence of the rapid benefits achieved from making clean water ponds, with very striking landscape wide gains in freshwater biodiversity - much more pronounced than is usually seen in catchment management projects. The first 35 Natural Flood Management dams we created are also creating an impact - they are quite substantial! - and we are continuing to add further dams to the Eye Brook catchment. We are beginning to produce the first papers on catchment modelling, with the work being led by University of York. We published an analysis of alternative approaches to controlling pesticide runoff using information from the project. Noraini Ruslan at University of Sheffield is currently writing up her PhD work on the project. We are also planning longer term funding of the project, post March 2021, with the Environment Agency.



Leaky dams are part of our Natural Flood management project

The Newt Conservation Partnership

The Newt Conservation Partnership (formerly the South Midlands Newt Conservation Partnership) was established to create high quality aquatic and terrestrial habitat for Great Crested Newts as part of the Natural England-led Great Crested Newt District Licensing scheme. In this project we work closely with the NatureSpace Partnership. The Newt Conservation Partnership is currently operating in 16 local planning authorities across the Midlands and 68 ponds have been created. The Trust is a key partner in this scheme, working with NatureSpace and Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust, as well as many landowning and management organization and individuals. In 2019 we surveyed all compensation sites (12 in total) that have been created under the scheme using environmental DNA testing to assess the presence of Great Crested Newts. The results confirmed that Great Crested Newts had already colonised new ponds in 42% of sites within just 12 months of creation. The scheme is not only benefiting Great Crested Newts, but also other freshwater and pond-associated wildlife, including priority species for conservation like the Common Toad. We have ambitious plans for larger-scale, multi-phase habitat creation projects to begin in 2020.



Early stages in the construction of a Great Crested Newt District Licensing Scheme pond creation project at Nagshead Plantation, Forest of Dean



Later stage of Nagshead Plantation project

European Pond Conservation Network

During the year we helped plan the next European Pond Conservation Network conference which was planned for spring 2020. As a result of COVID-19 the conference has now been delayed until autumn 2020. It will be hosted by University College London as part of the Hydroscape project. We are on the organising committee as well as co-organisers for the conference.

Plans for 2020-21

During 2020-21 we plan to:

- Embark on a major Europe-wide project called *Ponderful* which has been awarded to an international consortium led by the University of Vic in Spain.
- Develop the first practical projects in the Freshwater Network, focussing initially on the catchment of the River Thames, the Oxford - Cambridge Arc and the Yorkshire Lowlands. The Freshwater Network aims to protect and link up freshwater biodiversity hotspots across the country. During the year we also hope to get a major funder on board for this next phase of freshwater biodiversity protection and recovery.
- Develop a new project building a 'halo' of high quality freshwater habitats around the New Forest, extending the area which has freshwaters of the quality seen in the open Forest at the heart of the National Park.
- Continue developing a new national small waters monitoring network, building on the foundations provided by PondNet.
- Complete the 6th year of the Great Crested Newt national eDNA monitoring programme
- Continue catchment projects which deliver benefits for freshwater biodiversity in England and Wales (with a focus on the New Forest, Northamptonshire and the wider South Midlands).
- Continue to create new terrestrial and pond habitat for Great Crested Newts in the South Midlands and, dependent on developer interest in the scheme, extend to new counties in the South and the Midlands.
- Continue to promote and practically undertake new pond creation programmes, including planning a new phase of the Million Ponds Project.
- Publish, promote and make people aware of our work; we hope that during 2020 or early in 2021 the long-awaited New Naturalist book 'Ponds, Pools and Puddles' (written by two of the Trusts senior staff) will help to make more people aware of the value of small waterbodies for freshwater biodiversity.
- We will launch a new strategy for the next 10 years, updating the 2013-20 strategy that has guided the first eight years of the work of Freshwater Habitats Trust.



Promoting our work to make people aware of the value of freshwater biodiversity is one of our aims for 2020/21

Reference details

Patron:

The Earl of Selborne KBE FRS

Board of Trustees:

Roger Thomas	Chair of Trustees
Brian Abbott	Treasurer Elected Oct19
Baroness Hilton of Eggardon	
Professor Lorraine Maltby	
Geoff Phillips	Resigned Jul19
Keith Lawrey	
Dr Mark Downs	
Dr Edward Sykes	
Debbie Tann	Elected Jul19
Paul Jackson	Resigned Jul19

Company Secretary:

Mrs Natasha Challoner

Senior Management Team:

Dr Jeremy Biggs	Director
Dr Pascale Nicolet	Technical Director (part-time secondment as CEO to NCP)
Dr Naomi Ewald	Director of Research and Development
Natasha Challoner	Finance Manager

Registered Office:

Bury Knowle House,
North Place, Headington,
Oxford, OX3 9HY

Independent Examiner:

Moore Kingston Smith
Devonshire House
60 Goswell Road
London
EC1M 7AD

Bankers:

HSBC Bank plc
108 London Road,
Headington,
Oxford, OX3 9AP

Freshwater Habitats Trust is a registered charity, no. 1107708, and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales, no. 5317683, at the above registered address.

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Structure, governance and management

The trustees (who are also directors of Freshwater Habitats Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Freshwater Habitats Trust is an incorporated charity established and governed under a Memorandum and Articles of Association completed in December 2004, under the name of Pond Conservation: The Water Habitats Trust. The Trust was entered onto the Register of Charities, Number 1107708, on 19th January 2005. It was registered as a Limited Company, Number 5317683, on 20th December 2004. Pond Conservation remained inactive until 1st April 2005, at which point it took over the charity "The Ponds Conservation Trust". It subsequently also took over the subsidiary company "The Ponds Conservation Trust: Policy & Research Ltd". The Trust's name was changed to Freshwater Habitats Trust in August 2013 and the Memorandum and Articles of Association were updated to reflect this in October 2013.

The Trust is administered by a Board of Trustees, currently consisting of eight members. The Senior Management Team (SMT) reports to the Trustee Board, and manages staff and activities of the Trust under delegated authority from the Trustee Board.

The financial management and fundraising strategy of the Trust are supervised by Trustees and SMT, reporting and making recommendations to the full board for implementation.

The Trust currently provides an informal induction process for new Trustees. Prospective trustees are nominated for their professional experience and the match of their skills to the board's needs. They are approached by the Chair or an SMT member, the aims and activities of the Trust are explained to them, and they are provided with explanatory information and reports. They are invited to attend a board meeting to learn more of our work and procedures and when possible, to meet staff. On becoming a Trustee, they are provided with explanatory material on Trusteeship from the Charity Commission, and copies of the budget, recent accounts, and recent staff and board meeting minutes.

Public Benefit

The Board of Trustees is satisfied that they have complied with the duty in of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission, and that the mission, aims and activities of Freshwater Habitats Trust meet with these criteria.

Objects

- To advance public education in the conservation and ecology of ponds, wetlands, catchment systems and other water habitats;
- To promote for public benefit the conservation and creation of freshwater habitats and their wildlife, and their sustainable enjoyment by the public, in particular, but not exclusively, through:
 - (a) Promotion and conduct of active creation and conservation of freshwater habitats and their catchments.
 - (b) Public education in the conservation and ecology of freshwater habitats and their catchments.
 - (c) Promotion and conduct of research and the dissemination of useful results.
 - (d) Advocacy to promote the conservation, creation, sustainable use and enhancement of freshwater habitats.

Mission statement

To protect freshwater life for everyone to enjoy.

Risk management

The Board of Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those relating to the operations, reputation, business and finance of Freshwater Habitats Trust. The Senior Management Team (SMT) assess and update the likelihood and impact of material risks on a risk management matrix, which is reviewed by the Board on a quarterly basis at Trustee meetings. Any significant changes are reported to Trustees as they arise.

Health and Safety Procedures are reviewed annually on a rotational basis, with Health and Safety reports as standing items on Board, SMT and staff meeting agendas. Specific risk assessments are carried out for all new activities and field working sites. Health and Safety is a primary element of the staff induction system, and training is provided whenever appropriate.

Data Protection

The Board of Trustees recognises the importance of protecting the personal information FHT collect and how this is handled within the organisation. Guidelines, Privacy Policies and Procedures are regularly reviewed and Data Protection is a standing item at internal meetings.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2020 is set out on page 21 of this report.

Income

Freshwater Habitats Trust's total income increased slightly in 2019/20 to £701k (2018/19: £700k).

Voluntary income of £232k (2019/20: £256k) no longer represents the majority of Freshwater Habitats funding. Continuing grants include, Water Friendly Farming research funding (£24k), Environment Agency (74k), New Forest National Park (£19k) and Thames Water (£36k).

Charitable activities income of £468k is higher than the prior year (2018-19: £443k). This included Environment Agency, Water Friendly Farming project (£45k), Wootton Brook project (£47k), Leck Natural Flood Management (£31k), Newt Conservation Partnership (£184k), and eDNA Great Crested Newt monitoring (£78k).

Expenditure

Total expenditure for 2019/20 is lower by 15% at £688k (2019/20: £811k) due to last year having a higher level of project funds carried forward and spent from the previous year. The fundraising and governance costs of the organisation remain low at 1.7% of total expenditure (2018/19: 1%), with a dedicated fundraiser employed part way through the year.

Reserves position

Closing reserves of £385k are 3.5% higher than 2018/19 (£372k).

Restricted reserves decreased 7.3% to £76k (2018/19: £82k) due to the reduction in grant funded projects as a result of an increase in contractual projects.

Unrestricted reserves increased 6.5% to £309k (2018/19: £290k). This was due to an increase in contractual projects and funds held over relating to on ongoing projects (£14k, 2018/19: £101k).

Reserves policy

The Trustees have agreed to maintain unrestricted reserves to meet the requirements of Freshwater Habitats Trust's working capital, in order to meet any temporary shortfall in funds, or cover unexpected expenditure, such as finding new accommodation, and therefore enable Freshwater Habitats Trust to fulfil its charitable objectives. Working capital requirement is defined as the equivalent of 6 months' unrestricted expenditure (£229k). (2018/19: £274k).

The Board of Trustees reviews the Reserves Policy and amount of reserves required annually as part of the budget setting process. The unrestricted reserves at the end of this period were £309k and comply with this policy.

Restricted reserves represent unspent monies received from donors who have specific conditions as to their use on agreed projects. These funds are fully covered by matching assets. No project funds are in deficit at the end of the financial year, and the Board of Trustees anticipates that these are sufficient to fulfil project requirements.

The Board of Trustees considers there are sufficient reserves held at the year end and therefore continues to adopt a going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

Approval

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Comply with applicable accounting standards, including FRS 102, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- State whether a Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applies and has been followed, subject to any material departures which are explained in the financial statements.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

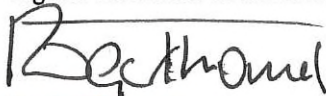
- There is no relevant information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

The Trustees' Annual Report is approved by the Trustees of the Charity.

Small Company Rules

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provision of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 28 July 2020



Roger Thomas
Chair



Brian Abbott
Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Freshwater Habitats Trust ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directors given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statements of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Neil Finlayson (FCA)

For and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Chartered Accountants

Devonshire House

60 Goswell Road

London

EC1M 7AD

Date: 15/09/2020

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2020

(Incorporating the summary Income and Expenditure account)

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds year ended 31-Mar-20	Total funds year ended 31-Mar-19
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Grants and donations	2	12,672	219,668	232,340	256,330
Investments		937	-	937	750
Charitable activities	3	467,887	-	467,887	442,574
Total income		481,496	219,668	701,164	699,654
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	7,253	-	7,253	2,501
Charitable activities	5	450,617	230,507	681,124	808,139
Total expenditure		457,870	230,507	688,377	810,640
Transfers between funds		(4,852)	4,852	-	-
Net movement in funds		18,774	(5,987)	12,787	(110,986)
Fund balances at 1 st April 2019		289,930	82,247	372,177	483,163
Fund balances at 31 st March 2020		308,704	76,260	384,964	372,177

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period

The notes on pages 24 to 34 form part of these financial statements

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2020

	Note	31-Mar-20	31-Mar-20	31-Mar-19	31-Mar-19
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:					
Intangible assets	11	-		483	
Tangible assets	12	<u>3,423</u>		<u>4,338</u>	
			3,423		4,821
Current assets:					
Stock	13	425		525	
Debtors	14	102,655		180,492	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>465,239</u>		<u>330,431</u>	
Total current assets:		568,319		511,448	
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(186,778)		(144,092)	
Net current assets:			<u>381,541</u>		<u>367,356</u>
Net assets:			<u>384,964</u>		<u>372,177</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds			76,260		82,247
Unrestricted funds			<u>308,704</u>		<u>289,930</u>
Total charity funds	16		<u>384,964</u>		<u>372,177</u>

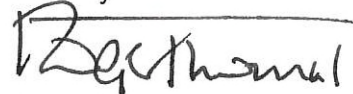
For the year ended 31 March 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 28 July 2020 and signed on their behalf by:



Roger Thomas
Chair



Brian Abbott
Treasurer

Company Number 5317683

Cash flow statement

For the year ended 31st March 2020

	Notes	2020	2019
		£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by operating activities	see below	135,471	37,619
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Interest income		937	750
Purchase of Leasehold, plant and equipment	12	(1,600)	(2,202)
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(663)</u>	<u>(1,452)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		134,808	36,167
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		330,431	294,264
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>465,239</u>	<u>330,431</u>

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

		2020	2019
		£	£
Net Income/(expenditure) (as per the statement of financial activities)		12,787	(110,986)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation and amortisation charges	11,12	2,998	6,412
Investment income		(937)	(750)
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	13	100	(155)
Decrease in debtors	14	77,837	108,734
Increase in creditors	15	42,686	34,364
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>135,471</u>	<u>37,619</u>

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

		2020	2019
		£	£
Cash in hand		465,239	330,431
Total cash and cash equivalents		<u>465,239</u>	<u>330,431</u>

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020

1. Accounting policies

a. Accounting convention

Basis and preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Charitable Company is a public benefit entity for the purposes of FRS 102 and therefore the charity also prepared its financial statements in accordance with the Statement of recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (The FRS 102 Charities SORP), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

b. Going concern basis

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of the approval of the financial statements. In particular, the trustees have considered the charitable company's forecasts and projections and have taken into account the pressures on income.

In making this assessment the trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19 and while some projects have been delayed it is not anticipated that this will affect the charity's ability to continue its charitable objects.

Annual budgets have been reviewed taking this into account with prudent figures for both income and expenditure which reflect the ability of the charity to scale back activities if required. After making enquiries, the trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

c. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are those funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are those funds over which the trustees do not have full discretion concerning their use.

d. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes legally entitled to the income and when this income can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Any contract income received in advance of the work being done is deferred.

No amounts are included in the financial statements for services provided by volunteers.

e. Resources expended

All expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income. Charitable activities include costs in furtherance of the charity's objects and support costs relating to those activities. Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements. Support costs include administrative staff and central office costs.

Where support staff work for a particular activity their costs are allocated to that activity based on an hourly recharge rate. Any remaining support costs are allocated to the charitable activities in the same percentage.

f. Intangible and tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation and amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

- Computers and software - 33% straight line.
- Leasehold costs - depreciated over the period of the lease (5 years).
- Assets costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised and are included in expenditure.

g. Stocks

Stocks and work in progress are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

h. Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity in the year.

i. Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the exchange rate ruling at the date of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the balance sheet date. All exchange differences are included in the statement of financial activities.

j. Financial instruments

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at banks and in hand and short term deposits with a maturity date of three months or less.

Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors receivable or payable within one year of the reporting date are carried at their transaction price. Debtors and creditors that are receivable or payable in more than one year and not subject to a market rate of interest are measured at the present value of the expected future receipts or payment discounted at a market rate of interest.

k. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. There are no significant estimates or judgments that have a material effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

2. Grants and donations

Year to 31 March 2020	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2020
	£	£	£
Project Activities			
Environment Agency	-	97,796	97,796
New Forest National Park Authority		19,129	19,129
Thames Water	-	36,126	36,126
Rural Payments Agency	-	28,400	28,400
Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment	-	12,917	12,917
Other	-	23,000	23,000
	-	217,368	217,368
Other			
Supporter Scheme			
Other	10,765	-	10,765
	1,907	2,300	4,207
	12,672	2,300	14,972
Total grants and donations:	12,672	219,668	232,340
Year to 31 March 2019	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2019
	£	£	£
Project Activities			
Environment Agency	-	121,950	121,950
New Forest National Park Authority	-	19,704	19,704
Thames Water	-	29,014	29,014
Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment	-	4,662	4,662
Anglian Water	-	8,875	8,875
Biffa Award	-	30,215	30,215
Other	-	23,457	23,457
	-	237,877	237,877
Other			
Supporter Scheme	11,452	-	11,452
Other	3,098	3,903	7,001
	14,550	3,903	18,453
Total grants and donations:	14,550	241,780	256,330

3. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	2020 £
Year to 31 March 2020			
Project Activities	463,787	-	463,787
Corporate membership & sponsorship	4,100	-	4,100
	467,887	-	467,887

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	2019 £
Year to 31 March 2019			
Project Activities	438,807	1,247	440,054
Corporate membership & sponsorship	2,520	-	2,520
	441,327	1,247	442,574

4. Raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£
Year to 31 March 2020			
Staff costs	4,200	-	4,200
Support costs	3,053	-	3,053
	7,253	-	7,253

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	2019	2019	2019
	£	£	£
Year to 31 March 2019			
Support costs	2,501	-	2,501
	2,501	-	2,501

5. Cost of charitable activities including grants payable and activities undertaken directly by the charity

	Grants payable	Staff costs	Project activities	Other costs	Support costs	Total 2020
Year to 31 March 2020	£	£	£	£	£	£
Project Activities	-	281,203	252,281	1,975	145,665	681,124
	-	281,203	252,281	1,975	145,665	681,124

	Grants payable	Staff costs	Project activities	Other costs	Support costs	Total 2019
Year to 31 March 2019	£	£	£	£	£	£
Project Activities	21,500	350,901	296,161	2,253	137,324	808,139
	21,500	350,901	296,161	2,253	137,324	808,139

6. Support costs

	Unrestricted 2020	Restricted 2020	Total 2020
	£	£	£
Staff costs	59,650	23,136	82,786
Office running costs	38,957	15,110	54,067
Governance costs	3,128	1,213	4,341
Other	3,222	1,249	4,471
	104,957	40,708	145,665

	Unrestricted 2019	Restricted 2019	Total 2019
	£	£	£
Staff costs	45,391	22,458	67,849
Office running costs	40,306	19,942	60,248
Governance costs	3,517	1,740	5,257
Other	2,656	1,314	3,970
	91,870	45,454	137,324

7. Net incoming resources

Net incoming resources are stated after charging:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Independent examiner's remuneration	4,150	4,070
Depreciation on tangible assets	2,515	3,520
Amortisation of intangible assets	<u>483</u>	<u>2,892</u>

8. Trustees' remuneration and related parties

Trustees received reimbursement £604 (2019: £1,139) in relation to travel expenses in the financial year and no trustees received any remuneration.

Unrestricted donations from trustees were £195 (2019: £120)

9. Employees remuneration

The aggregate payroll costs of employees were:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries	314,916	362,597
Social security	27,335	33,053
Pension costs	17,359	20,898
	<u>359,610</u>	<u>416,548</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year (2019 - no. 0)

Average number of employees:

	2020	2019
Project activities	7	9
Support	3	3
	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>

Key management personnel includes the Trustees and senior management. The total employee benefits, including pension costs, of the charity's key management personnel were £210,316 (2019: £215,311)

10. Taxation

As a registered charity Freshwater Habitats Trust benefits from exemptions on income and gains falling within Sections 466-493 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 to the extent they derived from charitable activities..

11. Intangible fixed assets

	Software £	Total £
Cost		
At 01/04/19	8,677	8,677
Additions	-	-
At 31/03/20	<u>8,677</u>	<u>8,677</u>
Amortisation		
At 01/04/19	8,194	8,194
Annual charge	483	483
At 31/03/20	<u>8,677</u>	<u>8,677</u>
At 31/03/20	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31/03/19	<u><u>483</u></u>	<u><u>483</u></u>

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold costs £	Computers £	Total £
Cost			
At 01/04/19	5,575	16,268	21,843
Additions	1,600	-	1,600
Disposals	(5,575)	-	(5,575)
At 31/03/20	<u>1,600</u>	<u>16,268</u>	<u>17,868</u>
Depreciation			
At 01/04/19	5,575	11,930	17,505
Annual Charge	229	2,286	2,515
Release on disposal	(5,575)	-	(5,575)
At 31/03/20	<u>229</u>	<u>14,216</u>	<u>14,445</u>
Net book value			
At 31/03/20	<u><u>1,371</u></u>	<u><u>2,052</u></u>	<u><u>3,423</u></u>
At 31/03/19	<u>-</u>	<u><u>4,338</u></u>	<u><u>4,338</u></u>

13. Stocks

	2020	2019
	£	£
Books for resale	<u>425</u>	<u>525</u>

14. Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Project debtors	40,013	123,427
Prepayments and accrued income	60,606	54,797
Other debtors	2,036	2,268
	<u>102,655</u>	<u>180,492</u>

15. Creditors falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Project creditors	2,823	70,917
Deferred income < one year	34,059	2,593
Accruals	102,335	44,786
Taxation and social security costs	46,311	24,546
Other creditors	1,250	1,250
	<u>186,778</u>	<u>144,092</u>

16. Analysis of funds

	At 1-Apr-19 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Fund transfers £	Balance 31-Mar-20 £
Restricted Funds					
Catchment Partnership Funds: Ock, Thame & New Forest	9,869	42,000	40,659	-	11,210
WEIF New Forest Projects	-	34,875	34,875	-	-
Important Freshwater Areas Oxfordshire	7,565	-	4,680	-	2,885
Million Ponds Digging Fund	28,116	-	85	-	28,031
New Forest Catchments	3,109	-	-	-	3,109
New Forest HLF Beaulieu	-	7,129	7,129	-	-
River Irfon	22,394	-	13,840	-	8,554
Arable Farming (Ock & Thame)	487	8,921	9,350	(58)	-
Saving Oxfordshire wetland wildlife	1,684	48,005	49,689	-	-
Biffa Award, Stow Common	92	-	92	-	-
Anglian Water	8,875	-	8,875	-	-
Water Friendly Farming Research	-	24,000	24,000	-	-
Other small projects	56	3,338	7,924	4,530	-
Water Environment Grants	-	28,400	28,780	380	-
Medicinal Leech	-	23,000	529	-	22,471
Total restricted funds:	82,247	219,668	230,507	4,852	76,260
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	289,930	481,496	457,870	(4,852)	308,704
Total unrestricted funds:	289,930	481,496	457,870	(4,852)	308,704
TOTAL FUNDS	372,177	701,164	688,377	-	384,964

16. Analysis of funds (*continued*)

	At 1-Apr-18 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Fund transfers £	Balance 31-Mar-19 £
Restricted funds					
Catchment Partnership Funds: Ock, Thame & New Forest	14,590	43,750	49,879	1,408	9,869
Avon & Sowley Catchments	13,947	44,850	56,728	(2,069)	-
Important Freshwater Areas Oxfordshire	10,226	-	2,661	-	7,565
Pond Digging Fund	17,459	-	-	-	17,459
Million Ponds Project Phase 2	6,027	-	23	-	6,004
Million Ponds Project Dissemination	4,653	-	-	-	4,653
New Forest Catchments	4,402	-	1,293	-	3,109
New Forest HLF Beaulieu	-	7,704	7,754	50	-
River Irfon	13,005	10,100	711	-	22,394
Arable Farming:Ock & Thame	9,048	21,492	28,224	(1,829)	487
Thames Water (Saving Oxford Wetland Wildlife)	-	29,014	27,330	-	1684
Biffa Award, Stow Bedon	-	30,215	30,123	-	92
Anglian Water	-	8,875	-	-	8,875
Water Friendly Farming Researcher	2,608	24,000	26,608	-	-
Other Small projects	6,655	23,027	32,563	2,937	56
Total restricted funds:	102,620	243,027	263,897	497	82,247
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	380,543	456,627	546,743	(497)	289,930
Total unrestricted funds:	380,543	456,627	546,743	(497)	289,930
TOTAL FUNDS	483,163	699,654	810,640	-	372,177

Restricted funds consist of grants which have been made Freshwater Habitats Trust which have yet to be fully completed and span over the year end. Transfers between funds occur when there is match funding agreed at the start of the project.

17. Analysis of net assets by funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Year to 31 March 2020			
Fixed assets	3,423	-	3,423
Current assets	489,236	79,083	568,319
Current liabilities	(183,955)	(2,823)	(186,778)
Net assets	<u>308,704</u>	<u>76,260</u>	<u>384,964</u>

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Year to 31 March 2019			
Fixed assets	4,821	-	4,821
Current assets	356,748	154,700	511,448
Current liabilities	(71,639)	(72,453)	(144,092)
Net assets	<u>289,930</u>	<u>82,247</u>	<u>372,177</u>

18. Operating lease commitments

As of 31 March 2020 the charity had the following commitments under non-cancellable operating leases.

	Land and buildings 2020	Land and buildings 2019
	£	£
Expire within one year:	<u>31,000</u>	<u>575</u>
Expiry within two to five years:	<u>31,849</u>	<u>-</u>