# The RED SQUIRREL PROJECT Info Sheet

Angus SQUIRREL GROUP

## Introduction

Angus Squirrel Group is working to protect the local red squirrel population that is under threat in many parts of the region. Angus is home to an significant number of the country's red squirrels and in places such as the Angus Glens there has yet been no intrusion by grey squirrels. However, the south of the county has seen a steady rise in grey numbers and territory .

## What Are We Doing to Help?

The Group is helping red squirrels by taking practical action in and around the forests and woodlands where they are found. Volunteers and interested organisations are working together.

***This is what is happening:-***

Both Group volunteers and the Angus Glens Countryside Ranger Service carry out squirrel surveys at various locations to keep records of red numbers and monitor the movement of grey invaders. This information is then sent to the Scottish Squirrel Survey to help develop a national picture of squirrel distribution.

Group members monitor housing and other developments throughout the area and speak out on behalf of red squirrels in situations where their habitat may be put under threat by deforestation or new buildings.

Supplementary feeding. Some members and supporters use garden feeders that can only be entered by red squirrels. This can help them to survive lean periods and be fit to breed in places where grey squirrels are competing for food. The Group can offer advice on feeding practices and how to make feeders.

The Group can provide advice and guidance on controlling grey squirrel numbers where they have moved into areas occupied by reds.

The Group can assist by providing talks and school visits to increase public awareness of the presence of this special animal and how it lives in the countryside around them.

The County Library Service is assisting the Group by displaying posters and leaflets for public information and to encourage recruitment.

A schools pack to teach primary children is available through the Tayside Red Squirrel project.

## What Can I Do to Help?

The Angus Squirrel Group is made up of volunteers who are keen to lend their support and time to red squirrel conservation. You can join us as a supporter and even offer some of your spare time to help contribute to the work of the Scottish Squirrel Survey.

***Get in touch with the Angus Glens Ranger Service if you would like to help:-***

Phone: **01575 550 233 (Graham Christer)**
E-mail: **rec_glendoll@angus.sol.co.uk**
OR contact **Tayside Red Squirrel Project : e-mail redsquirrel.project@dundeecity.gov.uk**

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