

Annex 2: Timetable of Actions

Landscape scale

Short term priorities

- **Research** into soil health, conservation, and enhancement within the National Park supported.
- **Consideration** of soil health is incorporated into every habitat creation scheme proposed; proposals for soil inoculation where suitable are supported.
- **Identify**, improve and protect undesignated land which is functionally linked to designated sites.
- **Develop** collaborative landscape scale projects, supported by funding streams such as Landscape Recovery or strategic pots from National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- **Increase** awareness and engagement with the dark skies in the National Park e.g. through the Dark Skies Festival.
- **Prioritise** development of transitional habitat, including naturally established woodland and scrub, where it can be created to buffer existing habitats.

Medium priorities

- **Work** collaboratively to facilitate flexible management of our designated sites, maximising their resilience, ecological function, and contribution to wider nature recovery.
- **Create** species rich buffer habitats around designated sites wherever possible.
- **Identify**, improve and protect undesignated land which is functionally linked to designated sites.
- **Deliver** a National Park wide funding scheme to support adoption of dark skies friendly lighting and facilitate the creation of Dark Sky Friendly Communities.
- **More** wet habitats of all types within the National Park
- **Targeted** tree tube removal and recycling program

Long term priorities

- **Designate** local wildlife sites.
- **All** villages within the National Park are transitioning to dark skies friendly lighting and dark sky zone increased.
- **Cross** border collaboration of stakeholders to protect and enhance regional nocturnal connectivity

- **All** materials and products used as part of Nature Recovery Projects are sustainable
- **Nowhere** in the National Park is more than 500m from a freshwater source.
- **All** tree tubes are removed at suitable time post planting/all tree tubes are biodegradable/nature friendly.

Farming

Short term priorities

- **Secure** funding for farming advisors to provide bespoke, co-ordinated farming advice.
- **Promote** peer to peer learning and networks through schemes such as farm clusters.
- **Increase** understanding of nature friendly management of hedgerows.
- **Secure** funding for flexible conservation schemes for farmers and landowners to complement national schemes.

Medium term priorities

- **Identify** innovative funding opportunities to support farmers to transition to lower environmental impact systems where unlikely to be eligible for existing grants, supporting on-farm productivity, animal health and welfare, and better environmental outcomes.
- **Share** all learning from nature friendly farming schemes undertaken in the National Park.

Long term priorities

- **Secure** long-term funding for farming advisors to allow for building good working relationships between advisors and the community.
- **All** hedgerows in the National Park managed in a variety of nature friendly ways.
- **Secure** long-term funding for flexible conservation schemes for farmers and landowners
- **Be** at the forefront of nature conservation in the UK, running innovative conservation schemes which are delivering for wildlife and land managers, and sharing these findings with conservationists throughout the UK.

Moorland

Short term priorities

- **Pilot** different approaches to moorland management, including grazing diversification trials.

- **Further** peatland restoration funded from a range of sources, including private finance where appropriate
- **Build** knowledge base of shallow peat areas within National Park and trial approaches to improve hydrological functioning.
- **Increase** diversity in heather cut/burn strategies, including small burn/cut areas, longer rotations and increased areas of no burn/cut.

Medium term priorities

- **Expand** on grazing diversification trials to include more land managers, and support innovation.
- **Produce** restoration plan for all shallow peat.
- **Buffer** moorland edges, support funding opportunities for softer edges and transitional habitat, with more woodland and scrub, including locally sourced juniper.
- **Undertake** works to increase the water table across all moorland areas, including on mineral soil.

Long term priorities

- **Diverse** strategies of moorland management create habitat mosaics of varied species and structure, increasing resilience to climate change.
- **All** peatland in the National Park is in active restoration.
- **Moorland** SSSI features are in favourable condition.

Grassland

Short term priorities

- **Raise** profile of species rich grassland, encourage local reporting of sites of importance and seek to ground truth identified areas.
- **Collaborate** to support communities to assess and enhance grassland habitats on roadside verges through local verge management plans.
- **Consider** grassland features when developing woodland creation schemes and encourage creation of species rich wood meadow/wood pasture habitat.

Medium term priorities

- **Assess** and enhance coastal and calcareous grassland on the coastal fringe and southern edge of the National Park.
- **Facilitate** opportunities to create or restore species rich grassland through private finance initiatives through increased awareness and understanding of opportunities.

Long term priorities

- **Develop** projects which can support bespoke conservation agreements where land not eligible/suitable for national agri-environment options or private finance initiatives.

Trees and woodland

Short term priorities

- **Create** an accurate record of ancient and veteran trees within the National Park.
- **Importance** of deadwood within woodlands promoted. Support for management to retain/create deadwood where appropriate.
- **Map** extent of rhododendron within the National Park.
- **Zero** tolerance policy on muntjac deer.
- **Create**, enhance and conserve areas of wood pasture and wood meadow.
- **Create** new woodland and plant landscape trees in appropriate locations.
- **Best** practice guidance and assurance protocols for managed shoots widely promoted and complied with.

Medium term priorities

- **Improve** resilience of all woodlands by increasing diversity of species, age and structure of the vegetation by natural processes as well as human intervention.
- **Identify** trees which could become ancient trees in the future and ensure that they are appropriately protected.
- **All** PAWS areas managed to preserve and enhance ancient woodland features and reduce conifer cover.
- **Tree** planting projects utilise varied species and seed sources to ensure diversity, subject to biosecurity considerations.
- **Grow** Juniper locally to enhance previous conservation projects and trials in propagation from local ash trees that appear resilient to ash die back undertaken.

Long term priorities

- **Plantations** on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) restored to native broadleaf woodland. All PAWS areas managed to preserve and enhance ancient woodland features and reduce conifer cover
- **Eradicate** rhododendron from areas of the National Park.
- **Deer** control undertaken across the National Park.

Water and wetlands

Short term priorities

- **Identify** areas where soil is being lost into watercourses.
- **Secure** funding for removal of in channel barriers
- **Increase** local awareness of invasive species and their personal responsibility to prevent the spread.
- **Embed** INNS monitoring and reporting in all aspects of work.
- **Survey** watercourses in the National Park and identify pressures to water and habitat quality.
- **Reconnect** people to river landscapes, providing the tools to educate, inspire, empower and mobilise action.

Medium term priorities

- **Secure** funding and undertake restoration to prevent soil entering watercourses.
- **Install** biosecurity protocols, such as boot cleaning stations at all flagship and high footfall sites.
- **Undertake** targeted interventions to reconnect rivers to their floodplain.
- **Roll** out projects which offer flexible funding for farmers and land managers focussed on improving water quality.

Long term priorities

- **Work** with partners including water industry bodies to improve wastewater infrastructure where required to minimise risk of pollution incidents.
- **Develop** a regional biosecurity plan to reduce and monitor spread of INNS in the long-term.

Marine and coastal

Short term priorities

- **Collate** and analyse all available rocky shore habitat and species data, to help partners identify evidence gaps and target resources to fill these gaps and identify new recovery opportunities.
- **Collate** data on coastal migratory fish species and share with partners to enable further data analysis.
- **Gather** existing data on species and processes reliant on sediment shores (intertidal and subtidal) to enable creation of natural capital accounts for the habitat.

Medium term priorities

- **Support** the work of the Concrete Coast programme to install ecological enhancements on 'hard' infrastructure, where ecologically and structurally appropriate, to create new habitat.
- **Expand** inland habitat restoration activities for migratory fish to include the coastal habitats as well as marine.
- **Identify** potential areas for coastal habitat creation in close collaboration with local organisations and communities, considering site usage, cliff proximity and scale.

Long term priorities

- **Build** on projects which connect people to the landscape and include connection between in-land and coastal communities, enabling people to share traditional knowledge and oral histories, and providing opportunities for active citizen science.

Species

Short term priorities

- **Collaborate** with partners and the land management community to increase knowledge about the potential impacts of a local beaver reintroduction.
- **Survey** Large Heath populations and undertake habitat interventions where appropriate measures are identified, to encourage population links.
- **Assess** moorland and farmland wading bird population trends through regular monitoring and surveys.
- **Collaborate** with partners to expand bird surveys within the National Park to farmland and coastal bird communities.
- **Survey** the extent of existing Freshwater Pearl Mussel beds.
- **Seek** funding to enable restoration and enhancement of natural river functions, to support a recruiting population of Freshwater Pearl Mussel.

Medium term priorities

- **Leverage** funding for interventions to support farmland birds and wading bird assemblages.
- **Support** collaboration with partners to increase awareness of raptor persecution and reporting, seek solutions to eliminate the practice, and empower communities to report instances of illegal persecution.
- **Monitor** changes in distribution of Freshwater Pearl Mussels.
- **Survey** and monitor water vole distribution within the National Park, and trial methods to expand their population from core areas into new watercourses.

Long term priorities

- **Identify** potential sites for beaver reintroduction where barriers are minimised, significant environmental and natural capital benefits are likely, and land managing community is receptive.
- **A** healthy, breeding assemblage of raptors found across the National Park
- **A** functioning and resilient population of wading bird species.
- **Identify** potential reintroduction areas and reintroduce the captive bred Freshwater Pearl Mussel population to the River Esk catchment.