

North York Moors National Park Authority

14 December 2020

Land of Iron Annual Update

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on the 'Land of Iron' Landscape Partnership Scheme.

2. Scheme Update

- 2.1 Land of Iron (formerly This Exploited Land) has been in its delivery phase since early 2017 and is due to end on 31 March 2021. The total scheme value is currently £4,314,959.
- 2.2 Although run by the Authority the scheme has been a partnership, overseen by a Steering Group of partners and volunteers since the start. Strong working relationships have been developed with these partners, who will continue various elements of work under legacy proposals.
- 2.3 Most of the scheme's original targets have been met or exceeded. Those which have not been met have valid reasons why, and the impact overall has been above target. **Appendix 1** provides the current targets matrix. The scheme is currently undertaking its final evaluation exercise, carried out by independent consultants. Interviews have been completed and findings gathered for this, and the report is due by January 2021. A very positive assessment is expected.
- 2.4 The scheme has three pillars – History, Environment and People. Key achievements under each of these are as follows:
- 2.5 **History**
- Major building conservation work completed at Rosedale Bank Top and Iron Kilns, Warren Moor Mine, Esk Valley Mine, Rail Trail Bridges and Combs Wood
 - 8 community archaeology excavations undertaken
 - New Young Archaeologists Club (YAC) established
 - Wealth of historic information recorded and electronic archive developed with Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum
- 2.6 **Environment**
- 106 landowners and land managers worked with
 - 231Ha PAWS restored
 - 9km hedges planted/restored
 - 24km paths improved and new public access created at Warren Moor and Esk Valley Mines
- 2.7 **People**
- Suite of inspiring interpretation features installed across the landscape
 - Exhibitions installed at The Moors Centre and Grosmont and Rosedale Abbey
 - 3,916 volunteer days contributed
 - 1,689 training days undertaken
 - 229 open days/talks/walks held
 - 43,000 blog views

- 14 community grants awarded

- 2.8 The coronavirus pandemic reduced the amount of public engagement activity planned for 2020 but other elements of the project such as building conservation and archiving work continued. Some volunteering was enabled throughout the summer and an exhibition held at the Inspired by Gallery in September. Some events, particularly talks to local groups, were held virtually.
- 2.9 A strong legacy plan is in place which sees the partnership approach continue with the Authority acting as the hub and figurehead. A commitment of £35,000/year legacy budget has been made under the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to support this, which has been very warmly welcomed by partners and the National Lottery. The legacy plan behind this figure has been developed with colleagues and partners to ensure everyone is aware of and happy with their commitments going forward. A summary is provided in **Appendix 2**.
- 2.10 A key part of the legacy proposals is a future building conservation project at Rosedale Stone Kilns. The Land of Iron scheme had a budget of £100k to carry out conservation work here, but the need is nearer £1million. The kilns are a monument of national importance yet are in a perilously fragile condition. A major fundraising project is in development and planned to be launched in spring 2021. It is hoped work could commence on site spring 2022, and would last for around 18 months.
- 2.11 Linked to this fundraising launch, it is hoped to hold a project celebration event around Easter 2021, although this will be considered nearer the time depending on the current coronavirus position.

3. **Financial and Staffing Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications from this report. All project match funding is in place and remaining budgets are allocated to items of spend. The legacy proposals form part of the MTFS.
- 3.2 There are no staffing implications from this report. Remaining project staff are expected to complete and close down the scheme. Future work from core Authority staff is accounted for in legacy proposals. It is worth noting the success of the scheme in terms of the positive career development for individual staff members – the four Officers who have now left the scheme have all progressed into new roles, some within the Authority.

4. **Contribution to National Park Management Plan**

- 4.1 The programme embodies the Management Plan's vision for the National Park and has helped achieve many of its aims and policies. Partners involved in the Land of Iron scheme have commended the Authority for acknowledging and celebrating the National Park's industrial heritage rather than hiding from it. Policies receiving the most direct impact are:

Environment – E1-2, E5, E7-9, E11-14, E16, E18, E24-27, E35-37, E40, E43
Understanding and Enjoyment – U1-U16
Business and Land Management – B1-2, B4, B7, B21, B23
Communities – C1-5, C12-13

5. **Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications from this report. The contract with the National Lottery Heritage Fund is considered to have been fulfilled and the remaining 5% of funding from this source will be claimed in March 2021 upon submission of the final report.

6. **Recommendation**

- 6.1 That Members note the contents of this report.

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Background papers to this Report

File ref

1. This Exploited Land of Iron
Report to the National Park Authority, 19 March 2018

LAND OF IRON - EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

LAND OF IRON - EVALUATION FRAMEWORK									
Vision									
By 2021 the landscape and ironstone heritage of the North York Moors will be in better condition and better cared for, will be better understood and valued by more people, and will have a more sustainable future									
Aim 1 - Industrial heritage sites and features will be recorded, protected and conserved									
Quality	Measure	Method		Activity					
	Before and after records of sites and features	Condition surveys, reports, 3D models and photos		Before - catalogue existing records, carry out new recording/HBR. After - repeat survey and recording using comparable methods.					
	Good public and agency support received for any new protected status designations	Feedback from consultations and surveys		End of project surveys of partners and public summer/autumn 2020.					
Quality	Good records of heritage captured, presented and connected to existing networks	HER updated and made more accessible, project archive established		Surveys of HER and project archive users, usage numbers of HER and project archive, all as part of end of project evaluation summer/autumn 2020.					
	Measure	Unit	Target	Current completed		Current proposed		% target in development	% target completed
	Sites/features conserved, recorded and interpreted	no	17	19		19		112	112
Sites given new protected status	no	3	0		4		133	0	
Erosion control projects	no	1	1		1		100	100	
Aim 2 - The natural environment and biodiversity will be improved									
Quality	Measure	Method		Activity					
	Improvements to habitat and species quantity, quality and connectivity	Base line and end of project ecological monitoring		Base line surveys complete. End of project surveys underway. Surveys separate to main evaluation project but results incorporated into end of project evaluation report.					
	Projects and sites used as case studies of best practice	Production of case studies documents		Current possibilities - mine water discharge schemes, hay meadow creation sites (Neil Kendall - South Side Farm Egton Grange), riparian strips (Egton Estate), improvement of post-industrial sites (Grosmont Ironworks, Warren Moor Mine). Technical data for case studies provided as part of ecological monitoring and internally, interviews with providers and compilation/presentation of case studies provided by end of project evaluation report summer/autumn 2020.					
Quality	Information on the natural environment is improved and the community is involved in helping capture, monitor and evaluate data	Citizen science, bat monitors in mines, surveys and species lists, owl/bird box monitoring, bioblitz events		Establish and evaluate a programme of citizen science activities. Developed and coordinated internally with potential for separate external support.					
	Measure	Unit	Target	Current proposed	Current completed	Current combined	Relating to target	% target in Agreement	% target completed
	Wildlife surveys undertaken	no	2	4	15	19.00	11.00	950	750
Land management grants awarded	£	350,000	0	511,813	511,812.86	161,812.86	146	146	
Lowland dry acid grassland	Achieved (ha)	11.66	0.00	19.26	19.26	7.60	165	165	
Lowland meadow	Maintained (ha)	4.89	0.00	5.20	5.20	0.31	106	106	
	Achieved (ha)	1.28	0.00	2.56	2.56	1.28	200	200	
	Restoring (ha)	4.88		4.88	4.88	0.00	100	100	
	Restored (ha)	13.65	0.00	14.28	14.28	0.63	105	105	
All categories	24.7	0.00	26.92	26.92	2.22	109	109		
Purple moor grass and rush pasture	Restored (ha)	0.81	0.00	2.21	2.21	1.40	273	273	
Upland heathland	Maintained (ha)	18.87	0.00	5.85	5.85	-13.02	31	31	
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Maintained (ha)	24.3	0.00	26.92	26.92	2.62	111	111	
	Achieved (ha)	1.35	1.00	6.99	7.99	6.64	592	518	
	Restored (ha)	0.19	0.00	0.35	0.35	0.16	184	184	
	Expanded (ha)	0.8	0.00	2.48	2.48	1.68	310	310	
All categories	26.64	1.00	36.74	37.74	11.10	142	138		
Quantity	Measure	Unit	Target	Current proposed	Current completed	Current combined	Relating to target	% target in Agreement	% target completed
	Traditional orchard	Achieved (ha)	0.16	0.00	0.48	0.48	0.32	300	300
	Expanded (ha)	0.15	0.00	0.21	0.21	0.06	137	137	
All categories	0.31	0.00	0.69	0.69	0.38	221	221		
Wood pasture and parkland	Restored (ha)	0.71	0.00	10.71	10.71	10.00	1508	1508	
PAWS restored	ha	229.97	0.00	230.86	230.86	0.89	100	100	
Upland flushes, fens and swamps	Maintained (ha)	0.03	0.00	28.44	28.44	28.41	94800	94800	
	Restored (ha)	1.81	0.00	1.81	1.81	0.00	100	100	
	All categories	1.84	0.00	30.25	30.25	28.41	1644	1644	
Ponds	Restored (ha)	1	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	100	100	
	Expanded (ha)	2	0.00	9.00	9.00	7.00	450	450	
	All categories	3	0.00	10.00	10.00	7.00	333	333	
Rivers	Restored (ha)	5.1	0.25	12.29	12.54	7.44	246	241	
Riparian habitat	Maintained (km)	0.96	0.00	0.96	0.96	0.00	100	100	
	Achieved (km)	0.38	0.21	0.57	0.78	0.40	204	150	
	Achieved (ha)	0.04	0.16	0.09	0.25	0.21	630	228	
	Restored (km)	8.76	0.00	15.13	15.13	6.37	173	173	
	Restored (ha)	10.95	0.00	12.59	12.59	1.64	115	115	
Hedgerows	Achieved (km)	2.05	0.11	2.19	2.30	0.25	112	107	
	Restored (km)	3.9	0.00	3.92	3.92	0.02	101	101	
	Expanded (km)	1.95	0.00	2.46	2.46	0.51	126	126	
	All categories	7.9	0.11	8.57	8.68	0.78	110	108	
Drystone walling	Restored (km)	0.35	0.89	1.31	2.20	1.85	628	374	
Fencing	Restored (km)	3.39	0.37	3.61	3.98	0.59	117	106	
	New (km)	0.47	1.86	26.27	28.12	27.65	5983	5589	
	All categories	3.86	2.23	29.87	32.10	28.24	832	774	
Trees planted	no	178	27.00	531.00	558.00	380.00	313	298	
Brown/sea trout (Salmo trutta)	habitat improved (km2)	0.046		0.046	0.046	0.000	100	100	
Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar)	habitat improved (km2)	0.046		0.046	0.046	0.000	100	100	
Ring ouzel (Turdus torquatus)	habitat improved (km2)	1.24	0	1.24	1.24	0.00	100	100	
	Population improved (no)					0.00			
Wild daffodil (Narcissus pseudonarcissus)	habitat improved (km2)	0.79	0	0.79	0.79	0.00	100	100	
	Population improved (no)					0.00			
Aim 3 - The landscape and heritage will be better managed and more people will be actively involved in caring for it									
Quality	Measure	Method		Activity					
	Land managers demonstrate a positive and proactive approach to good management practice and continue this after the project ends	Case studies and feedback from land managers		Technical data for case studies provided as part of ecological monitoring and internally, interviews with providers and compilation/presentation of case studies provided by end of project evaluation report summer/autumn 2020.					

O	Volunteers actively involved in heritage management with improved skills and capacity	Capacity, size and number of volunteers/groups, awareness of heritage, skills in heritage management	Interviews and surveys of volunteers and partners, qualifications obtained. Provided as part of end of project evaluation report summer/autumn 2020.		
Quantity	Measure	Unit	Target	Current completed	% complete
	Land owners and managers advised	no	106	114	108
	Advisory visits to land managers made	no	150	239	159
	Advisory reports to land managers written	no	50	71	142
	Land and monument management agreements and plans in place	no	38	118	311
	Value of landowner contribution to heritage and biodiversity works	£	66,538	70,593	106
	Value of other grants to heritage and biodiversity works	£	150,000	254,144	169
	Full-time-equivalent jobs created to deliver project and plan legacy	no	3.6	4.2	117
	Training activities undertaken	no	50	99	198
		days	500	1,689	338
		people	100	106	106
	Apprenticeships undertaken	days	1,440	469	33
	Work placements undertaken	days	390	542	139
	Graduate trainee placements undertaken	days	960	1040	108
	Volunteer days contributed	days	14,400	3,916	27
Volunteers actively involved	no	200	366	183	
Project grants awarded	no	32	71	222	
Match funding secured from community grants	£	10,000	103,583	1036	

Aim 4 - The landscape and its industrial past will be more accessible, understood and enjoyed by more people

Quality	Measure	Method	Activity
	Heritage interpretation materials and activities well accessed by a wide variety of people and organisations	Sales, downloads, visitor counts, visitor surveys and event attendees, website hits for increased heritage pages on website/s	Set out programme of data capture as part of end of project evaluation summer/autumn 2020.
	People will report an awareness, understanding and valuing of the heritage and landscape, inc. how cultural and natural heritage interact	Feedback from visitors, volunteers and event attendees	Set out programme of visitor surveys (inc. awareness of iconic species, e.g. ring ouzel, water vole, daffodils, and habitats, e.g. PAWS, bogs) as part of end of project evaluation summer/autumn 2020. Internal - prepare and implement event attendee evaluation form.
	People will visit the National Park with the primary purpose to experience the ironstone heritage and landscape	Visitor surveys and event attendees	Set out programme of visitor surveys as part of end of project evaluation summer/autumn 2020.
	Sustainable educational activities for young people are established	Young Archaeologists' Club (YAC) established and self-sufficient	Case study of YAC including members' feedback, provided as part of end of project evaluation summer/autumn 2020.
Access to the heritage and landscape will be improved, made safer and more accessible	Before and after photographs of access	Internal - appraise series of sites - Rosedale Railway, Esk Valley Mine, Warren Moor Mine, for inclusion in end of project evaluation.	

Aim 4 - The landscape and its industrial past will be more accessible, understood and enjoyed by more people

Quantity	Measure	Unit	HLF Target	Current completed	% complete
	Visitor information hubs created	no	3	3	100
	Heritage trails created	no	1	5	500
	Mobile display unit created	no	1	2	200
	Interpretation materials produced	no	20	22	110
	Learning resources/pack created	no	1	2	200
	Creation of new space for learning	no	1	3	300
	Exhibitions/displays	no	3	10	333
	Open days/engagement activities	no	25	229	916
	Schools and colleges worked with	no	28	9	32
	Leaflets produced	no	1	4	400
	Guides/booklets	no	1	1	100
	DVD/Films produced	no	1	7	700
	Community archive produced	no	1	0	0
	Legacy artwork produced	no	1	3	300
	People taking part in learning activities	no	1,000	1047	105
	Websites created	no	1	7	700
	NYMNP Land of Iron Website hits	no	5,000	32,871	657
	Blogs (views)	no	10,000	43,067	431
	Community groups worked with	no	15	26	173
Footpaths repaired and improved	km	19	24.1	127	
Increase visitor numbers to Moors Centre	no	111,000	0	0	
People will recognise "industrial heritage" as one of the North York Moors National Park's special qualities	%		To be incorporated into NYMNP five-yearly visitor survey, next round summer 2021.		

Aim 5 - The future of the landscape and heritage will be safer and more sustainable

Quality	Measure	Method	Activity		
	Project volunteers and partners will report motivation and confidence in legacy proposals	Feedback from volunteers and partners	Carry out programme of volunteer and partner surveys as part of end of project evaluation summer/autumn 2020.		
	Sites adopted by local volunteer groups and on-going NPA support agreed	Case studies and feedback from volunteers	Carry out programme of volunteer surveys as part of end of project evaluation summer/autumn 2020.		
Additional projects and funding are developed to continue to vision and aims of the scheme	Additional project details	Incorporate case studies of follow on projects as part of end of project evaluation summer/autumn 2020.			
Quantity	Measure	Unit	Target	Current completed	% complete
	Partnership structure/s established that will continue after the project ends	no	1	1	100
	Legacy proposals agreed and implemented, including use of van, Castleton heritage hub and other resources, and income generation, e.g. sale of Rail Trail booklets	no	4	4	100

Notes:

- i) Expected to be met/exceeded by end of project
- ii) Mis-categorisation of habitat codes in application, not enough of this habitat could be worked on in the Land of Iron area
- iii) Delivery mechanism changed to apprentice teams rather than single dedicated apprentice, plus apprentice involvement during 2020 restricted by coronavirus
- iv) Considered a typo error in the original application
- v) School uptake lower than anticipated
- vi) Expected to be met/exceeded by end of project
- vii) Figures intended to be taken in 2020, so impacted by coronavirus

Land of Iron Legacy Plan**NYMNPA Budgets Summary:**

Conservation HE	£4,000
Conservation NE	£6,000
Park Services North	£11,000
Park Services South	£11,000
Park Services West	£1,000
Car Parks	£1,000
Volunteer Services	£1,000
Total	£35,000

NYMNPA Tasks:**Conservation HE (£4,000/year)**

- Conservation input to Rangers' maintenance and inspections as and when required - mine inspections, bridge inspections, building conservation work
- Rosedale East & Warren Moor - lightning conductor tests
- Rosedale, Warren Moor, Rail Trail & Esk Valley - 5-yearly scheduled monument, listed structures and undesignated assets inspections
- Contribute to industrial heritage local partnerships and events
- Develop Stone Kilns funding and conservation project
- Continue YAC and encourage education team to utilise industrial heritage
- Continue to ensure industrial heritage included in National Park promotion and messages
- Manage Land of Iron web pages on NYMNPA website
- Organise independent post project evaluation in 2025

Conservation NE (£6,000/year)

- Administer ongoing agreements until expiry
- Extend annual agreements for worthwhile sites
- Continue some monitoring arrangements to evaluate long term ecological impact
- Remove tree shelters from Rosedale rowans
- Monitor and maintain mine water remediation ponds at Sil Howe, Clitherbeck and Bank House Farm

Park Services North (£11,000/year) - Rail Trail, Esk Valley and Warren Moor

- Annual bridge safety inspections and 3-yearly structural inspections
- Vegetation maintenance around bridges, structures, furniture, paths and areas identified in management plan
- Tree removal from bridges, structures and sensitive areas
- Flood debris inspection and removal
- Path surface maintenance
- Furniture and signage maintenance
- Esk Valley & Warren Moor - monthly visual inspection and review of annual & 10-year safety inspection

Park Services South (£11,000/year) - Rosedale Railway and Kilns

- Path surface maintenance
- Drainage maintenance
- Furniture and signage maintenance
- Tree removal from structures
- Renegotiate access licence/s

Park Services West (£1,000/year) - Ingleby Incline

- Path surface maintenance
- Drainage maintenance
- Furniture and signage maintenance

Car Parks (£1,000/year) - Grosmont and unpaid car parks

- Vegetation maintenance around structures and furniture
- Tree removal from structures and sensitive areas
- Furniture and signage maintenance
- Grosmont footbridge maintenance

Volunteer Services (£1,000/year)

- Support volunteers with mileage, clothing and administration

Park Services Comms (existing budgets)

- Continue to produce promotional materials
- Maintain Moors Centre exhibition

Steering Group Tasks:

- Continue to provide volunteers for site maintenance
- Develop volunteers for monument inspections
- Develop ongoing partnership structure
- Continue events and promotional activities

Partner Tasks:

- CIMM – Maintain physical and electronic archive
- Forestry England – Maintain Combs Wood
- Landowners – Grille inspections and site liabilities
- YWT – Maintain Fen Bog
- Grosmont Heritage – Maintain Grosmont Hub
- Rosedale History Society – Maintain Rosedale Hub