

1. NATURAL AND HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

VISION

A sustainable landscape that is planned, managed and protected with the support of local populations, and which maintains a range of ecosystem services.

- A landscape where the principles and purposes of the European Landscape Convention have been successfully put into practice and which is setting the standards for implementation of the Convention using a range of projects and mechanisms to plan, manage and protect landscapes appropriately.
- A landscape improving in ecological condition, with ecological networks and valued sites, both designated and non-designated, fully comprehended and managed to enhance their values and functions.
- Intact, well managed, cultural heritage resources with strong interpretation and opportunities to gain greater understanding of our past through the landscape.
- Intact, well managed, geodiversity resources with opportunities for communities to gain greater understanding of local geology.
- Well managed landscapes including reservoir valleys and moorlands providing a range of goods and services: from recreation opportunities to water catchment and management, and potentially carbon sequestration and other land uses which may help reduce carbon emissions and mitigate climate change.
- A landscape with a well-managed woodland resource that enhances the valley and moorland fringe habitats; helping to reduce erosion and flood risk.
- A whole river catchment approach adopted to manage the water resource sustainably.
- A landscape managed with appropriate designations that reflect its values and resources to the communities who appreciate them.

OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	TARGETS	TIMESCALE	PARTNERS
[1.1] Establish West Pennine Moors a centre of excellence for the European Landscape Convention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.1A] Produce an accessible report summarising existing landscape character assessments and historic landscape characterisation of the WPM (undertaking such assessments where they do not already exist). Use the report to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform understanding of landscape condition and form appropriate plans for enhancement (considering both cultural heritage and biodiversity) - Inform interpretation of the WPM 	Report on LCA and HLC completed.	2010/11	WPM Partnership Natural England
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.1B] Promote the recognition of landscape considerations within local plans and strategies (including Local Development Frameworks, Village Design Statements, Parish Maps and studies associated with the Local Heritage Initiative). 	Recognition of WPM landscape included in Local Development Frameworks.	Ongoing	NE CPRE (Lancashire) Local Planning Authorities WPM Lead Officer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.1C] Work with local communities to develop local landscape quality objectives to inform future landscape planning, taking account of social, economic and environmental pressures. 	Landscape quality objectives developed in consultation with communities	2011/12	WPM Partnership Local communities and user groups
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.1D] Develop a programme to deliver landscape-scale restoration and enhancement in the WPM, aiming to deliver multiple objectives of the Management Plan (e.g. HLF Landscape Partnership). 	Programme developed and delivered	2015	WPM Partnership Natural England Heritage Lottery Fund
[1.2] Protect and enhance the distinctive landscapes of the West Pennine Moors and maximise their contribution to the local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.2A] Identify areas where the character of the landscape has become degraded and plan for landscape restoration and enhancement in these areas. 	Areas identified as part of LCA/HLC assessment and reporting (see 1.1A)*	SCaMP2 2010-15 *2010/11	WPM Partnership
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.2B] Develop a sense of place project to identify and interpret the special qualities of the WPM landscape. To be undertaken in close consultation with local communities, aiming to determine their landscape values, perceived threats and opportunities for future landscape management. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation undertaken in conjunction with action 1.1C - Outputs used to develop Sense of Place Toolkit for tourism businesses (see action 3.2B) 	Sense of place project undertaken	2011/12	WPM Partnership The Wildlife Trust (Community Projects Team) Local communities

[1.3] Develop functional Ecological Networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.3A] Develop a GIS database containing all available information on habitat extent and quality, and species distribution; update the database as new information becomes available. Monitoring to include habitat restoration projects and designated wildlife sites (including Local Nature Reserves, SBIs and woodlands). 	Database developed and updated.	Database updated every 5 years (<i>to be confirmed</i>).	BHS Monitoring Project (LCC) GMEU
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.3B] Produce functional Ecological Network mapping for the WPM, aiming to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify areas for habitat de-fragmentation - Enable the production of biodiversity opportunity mapping to direct habitat restoration and re-establishment - Address cross boundary issues and enhance connectivity 	Ecological network maps produced.	2012/13	WPM Biodiversity Group
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.3C] Improve bankside habitat along rivers, streams and reservoirs to appropriately enhance biodiversity and to reduce erosion and flooding. 	Bankside habitat enhancement project developed and delivered (subject to panel engineer surveys and recommendations). Ensure incorporation into relevant HLS agreements	2010-15	United Utilities (SCaMP 2) NE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.3D] Enhance roadsides into and within the WPM, through verge and hedgerow management, tree planting and environmental enhancements. 	Regular surveys of roadside trees undertaken by UU. 0.2km of hedgerow planted per year on roadsides.	Ongoing Annual	United Utilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.3E] Control invasive and non-native species in localised areas at community request, or to protect biodiversity. Species to include Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam, Giant Hogweed, Rhododendrons. 	Target areas mapped and treated.	Ongoing	Environment Agency United Utilities Bolton Council Blackburn with Darwen Council Voluntary groups Private landowners
[1.4] Improve and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.4A] Audit and collate information on local heritage through: 	Information sourced	2011/12	WPM Heritage Group

promote understanding of the cultural heritage of the West Pennine Moors landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of a comprehensive list of all WPM heritage sites. - Develop a heritage publications list. - Bringing together all information/leaflets on heritage currently available; review and look at gaps. 	and collated; gaps in knowledge and information identified.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.4B] Establish a heritage research project (including archaeological, survey and documentary research) to identify sites for further restoration and interpretation. 	Research project undertaken.	2011/12	WPM Heritage Group
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.4C] Develop partnerships and work together to identify and promote heritage-based marketing opportunities through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establishing connections with local history societies: mining, engineering, textiles. - creating a good working relationship with tourist boards in order to ensure promotion of WPM heritage via existing tourist information centres and honeypots. - participating in LBTB's Heritage Revealed campaign - participating through the newly formed Lancashire Heritage Attractions Network. 	<p>Increase in new organisations involved in WPM Heritage Group</p> <p>WPM Heritage Group involved in sub-regional heritage marketing</p>	Ongoing	Ongoing
[1.5] Conserve and enhance heritage features.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.5A] Conserve and enhance key historic landscape features, particularly those associated with the agricultural and industrial landscape. For example: drystone walls, hedgerows, derelict farm buildings, mill ponds and lodges. 	<p>0.2km of boundary features restoration completed each year (UU).</p> <p>400m of managed hedgerows per year (Bolton Council).</p> <p>Ensure incorporation of key objectives into relevant HLS agreements.</p>	2010-15	United Utilities (SCaMP 2) Local Authorities NE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.5B] Use the WPM Heritage Scoping Study (2007) and Traditional Boundary Survey (2002) to identify and target historic landscape features for conservation and enhancement. 	Clear targets derived from existing studies.	Ongoing; review of studies 2010	WPM Heritage Group WPM Lead Officer
[1.6] Follow a holistic, whole river catchment approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.6A] Support the delivery of United Utilities Sustainable Catchment Management Programme 2 (SCaMP 2). 	Fully integrate Scamp 11 objectives into HLS tactical planning and	2010-15	WPM Partnership United Utilities (SCaMP 2)

to water and land management.		delivery.		Natural England
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.6B] Support the Environment Agency in developing River Basin Catchment Plans within the WPM (<i>a requirement of the Water Framework Directive</i>). 	River Basin Catchment Plans developed.	2014	Environment Agency WPM Partnership United Utilities
[1.7] Conserve and restore moorland landscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.7A] Raise awareness of the potential importance of blanket bog for carbon storage. 	<p>Key messages disseminated among WPM Partnership.</p> <p>Carbon storage included as theme within WPM Interpretation Plan.</p> <p>Ensure key messages are incorporated in all contact events and seminars.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>2011/12</p>	<p>United Utilities (SCaMP 2), Scout Moor Windfarm HEP WPM Biodiversity Group Local Authorities Developers LPAs Natural England Universities</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.7B] Conserve and enhance blanket bog through a targeted programme of restoration using techniques such as grip blocking. 	<p>Mapping of all grips (by 2015) to target restoration.</p> <p>Identify further funding to complete the rewetting of the 27 ha site at Aushaw Moss via grip blocking (BwD).*</p> <p>Identify other sites and funding to carry out moorland restoration schemes.**</p> <p>Ensure incorporation into relevant HLS agreements.</p>	<p>2010-15</p> <p>*Aushaw Moss project completed by 2015.</p> <p>Additional sites and funding identified by 2012.</p>	<p>United Utilities (SCaMP 2) Local Authorities</p> <p>*Blackburn with Darwen Council</p> <p>**WPM Biodiversity Working Group Developers Natural England</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.7C] Develop and implement guidelines to minimise environmental impacts and restore/mitigate damaged caused 	Guidelines developed	2012/13	WPM Access Group

	by recreational access – e.g. footpaths and bridleways.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.7D] Encourage optimal sustainable grazing levels by providing advice to landowners (e.g. via agri-environment advisors), targeting areas of grass/heath mosaic. 	Ensure incorporation into relevant HLS agreements.	2013	United Utilities (SCaMP 2) LWT/DEFRA “Glorious Grasslands” and “Marvellous Meadows” projects. HLS Natural England
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.7E] Support the Lancashire Peat Project to create a database of all upland blanket bog and heathland sites and categorise according to condition, “restorability” and likely costs. 	<i>Attend Lancashire Peat Project Steering Group meetings</i>	Ongoing	WPM Lead Officer Lancashire Peat Project Steering Group United Utilities (SCaMP 2) Natural England
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.7F] Promote natural regeneration of woodland and scrub in appropriate locations on moorland edges and in clough heads 	UU BAP targets met. Ensure incorporation into relevant HLS agreements.	2010-15	United Utilities (SCaMP 2) Natural England
[1.8] Increase the woodland cover of moorland fringe and valley landscapes and enhance woodland management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.8A] Identify and map priority areas for woodland creation, linking and extending existing woods using natural regeneration where possible. 	Meet targets set out by FSC. Ensure incorporation into relevant HLS agreements.	2010-2015	United Utilities (SCaMP 2) Local Authorities Natural England
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.8B] Deliver management projects to bring neglected woods into positive management. 	FSC Ensure incorporation into relevant HLS agreements.	UU Woodland Strategy – <i>timescale to be confirmed.</i>	United Utilities Natural England
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.8C] Identify and protect ancient semi-natural woodland and veteran trees. 	FSC GM ancient woodlands determined Establish Tree Preservation Orders	UU Woodland Strategy	United Utilities Bolton Council Tree and Woodland Section Red Rose Forest Forestry Commission Natural England

		and planning conservation areas to protect individual trees. Ad hoc advice provided regarding private woodlands. Ensure incorporation into relevant HLS agreements.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.8D] Encourage stockproofing of woodlands to allow natural regeneration 	FSC Ensure incorporation into relevant HLS agreements.	UU Woodland Strategy	United Utilities Red Rose Forest Forestry Commission Mersey Forest Elwoods Natural England
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.8E] Engage with woodland owners to assist in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - management planning and grant fund application - working towards FSC woodland certification or other schemes, where appropriate 	FSC	UU Woodland Strategy	United Utilities Red Rose Forest Forestry Commission Mersey Forest Elwoods
[1.9] Protect and manage the biodiversity and cultural heritage of moorland fringe and farmland landscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.9A] Identify potential sites for grassland management and restoration of traditional upland hay meadows, lowland meadows, and purple moor-grass and rush pasture. 	2 grassland and meadow projects undertaken.	2015	The Wildlife Trust's 'Forever Meadows' Project (in Chorley Borough) United Utilities (SCaMP2) Bolton Council
[1.10] Enhance reservoir valley landscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [1.10A] Enhance sections of the reservoir margins to encourage breeding birds (subject to reservoir safety and panel engineer recommendations). 	1 reservoir enhancement project undertaken. UU BAP targets met. Comply with EU Habitats Directive.	2015 Ongoing Ongoing	WPM Biodiversity Group United Utilities

		Ensure incorporation into relevant HLS agreements.		Natural England
[1.11] Protect, enhance and maintain local geological sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.11A] Support local RIGS partners and interest groups to protect, enhance and interpret local geological and geomorphological resources. 	<p>Jumbles Quarry project completed.</p> <p>Ensure incorporation of geodiversity objectives into relevant HLS agreements.</p>	2010-2011	UU Local interest groups Natural England
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.11B] Maximise use of quarries for conservation benefit and where appropriate, their recreational value. 	Quarries under management for biodiversity.	Ongoing	UU Local Authorities British Mountaineering Council
[1.12] Support sustainable farming and land management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.12A] Work with partners to deliver training for agricultural advisors to increase local capacity to produce Farm Environment Plans to support Higher Level Stewardship applications. 	<p>Courses delivered for farm advisors.</p> <p>Increase number of advisors available to work in WPM</p>	2010-12	FWAG (Lancashire); Natural England ; NFU
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.12B] Increase the number of applications for Higher Level Stewardship. 	25 HLS agreements delivered.	yr 1 – 5 yr 2 – 10 yr 3 – 10	Natural England United Utilities (SCaMP 2) The Wildlife Trust's 'Forever Meadows' Project (including Chorley Borough) and 'Glorious Grasslands' Project (including Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn, & Rossendale Boroughs) Bolton Council
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.12C] Provide information and advice to land managers regarding biodiversity and how it can be conserved and enhanced. 	6 ES themed on- farm events and seminars delivered*	*by end 2012	The Wildlife Trust's 'Forever Meadows' Project (including Chorley Borough) and 'Glorious Grasslands' Project

				(including Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn, & Rossendale Boroughs) Natural England*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.12D] Ensure that West Pennine Moors is clearly recognised in tactical plans for land management grants and support. 	Recognition of WPM included in tactical plans.	Ongoing	Lancashire and GM BAP partnerships Natural England
[1.13] Investigate designation status to protect the special qualities of the West Pennine Moors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.13A] Continue to investigate possibility of statutory designation (e.g. SSSI) for significant areas of the WPM. 	Designation achieved. Zero loss of SSSIs within the WPM.	2020 Annual monitoring by Natural England.	WPM Biodiversity Group Natural England Private landowners and tenants United Utilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.13B] Declare and manage suitable sites as additional statutory Local Nature Reserves. 	6 site declared as LNR/BHS/SBI	2015, with annual monitoring by Natural England.	Local Authorities LNR management groups GMEU Natural England
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [1.13C] Explore opportunities for other non-statutory landscape designations e.g. regional park. 	Discussions held with Government agencies (NWDA, NE)	2010/11	Government agencies WPM Lead Officer