

# Appendix 8

Suggested changes and additions  
to the potential measures

## Cumbria LNRS – Potential Measures

### Changes and additions suggested by stakeholders

#### **Habitat mosaics and networks**

It has been suggested we include an overarching description of the value of dynamic habitat mosaics vs single habitat expanses. Also of the various ways of achieving mosaic-scales of wilder or more natural processes.

Add following measures:

- Focussed development of habitat corridors, in particular creating links and pathways between "core" nature-rich sites which are currently disconnected.
- Targeted farm business advice following the "less is more" approach to ensure long-term joint environmental and economic sustainability

#### **People and nature**

We need a measure to engage young people specifically, across all sectors of land management, and to encourage more young people to see natural environment as a career.

#### **Urban and Urban Fringe**

- Include within the measures, the importance of recognising and protecting the value of existing nesting/breeding sites within existing buildings, to ensure they are not lost as a result of refurbishment works/home improvements. There is a need to raise awareness of the value of existing buildings for nesting birds, not just accommodating them in new development. Also to incorporate features into the original design (e.g. built into wall, not just installing bird boxes).
- Include a link to work with schools and colleges, not just for their sites but also to involve children and students to raise awareness.

#### **Brownfield Sites**

As well as reference to former railway routes as corridors, suggest more focus could be given to existing stations also routes along the journey (e.g. Network Rail land). *Note – as operating stations and active rail routes would not be classed as brownfield/previously developed land, incorporate this reference into the Urban and Urban Fringe section.*

#### **Grasslands**

Suggested additional measures:

- One relating soil quality and soil structure in the first outcome
- On the last outcome, add - Target extensive grassland areas as mosaics with scrub and woodland patches.

#### **Peatlands**

-Some of the wording around fire/grouse may need to be amended on the release of England's Peat Strategy.

-It has been suggested that a timescale be included in the measure for restoring peatland soils – in line with 25 Year Environment Plan target for all soils to be sustainably managed by 2030

#### **Wetlands**

Suggestion there should be a specific outcome and measures for floodplain habitats, recognising the complexity of the hydromorphology and geology.

#### **Fell and Fell Edge habitats**

-Add measure to first outcome - *Where appropriate, plant scrub to encourage regeneration and naturalistic gradation of habitat around the fell edge.*

-Use simpler term of 'tailored grazing regime' when referring to management of grazing levels and stock type – use this term consistently. Refer to native tree and scrub regeneration, or 'colonisation' (new areas away from existing woodland areas).

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#### Rivers and Streams

- Add measure for improved water quality - *Reduction and/or remediation of diffuse and point source mine water pollution.*
- Include alongside provision of advice, alerting relevant authorities of the potential occurrence (for monitoring)
- On reduce/eliminate INNS, and the measure to improve biosecurity around rivers, perhaps include some regulation for water bodies letting out for commercial fishing and recreation. Cooperation with planning authorities. Include education for private water bodies.

#### Lakes and Tarns

- Include public wastewater works as well as private in measures for 1<sup>st</sup> outcome
- On reduce/eliminate INNS, and the measure to improve biosecurity around lakes and tarns, perhaps include some regulation for water bodies letting out for commercial fishing and recreation. Cooperation with planning authorities. Include education for private water bodies.

#### Coastal Habitats

- Should be specific reference to Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) in the outcomes.
- Suggested measure – monitoring of marine INNS at harbours and marinas.
- Some clarity needed about defining species and habitats in the measures (e.g. reef, sea grass, salt marsh).
- Making the link between marine and terrestrial – include a measure in incorporating (and retrofitting) SuDS in development to reduce pressure on wastewater network and risk of spillage into the sea.

#### Woodlands and Trees

- On 1<sup>st</sup> outcome, measure to facilitate dynamic mosaic of scrub, trees and woodlands amongst other habitats -include ref to mineral soils in steep sided ghylls in blanket bog areas
- Measures need to be added for 'Restoration and creation of new orchards, farm woodlands and hedges' – it is very important for lichen species.
- Proposed measure to 'Remove all conifers from peatland soils and wild flower grassland sites and restore these ancient habitats' is not supported and needs re-thinking. Many coniferous forests do in fact support protected species and through restructuring will continue to do so. Whilst many peat soils are not restorable to their original condition and will cause net carbon loss as a result. Productive forestry and peatland restoration can be combined. Not all peat soils can be restored.
- should include reference to productive forestry being able to co-exist with thriving wildlife, in the same way this has been referenced for productive farming/food production

#### Species

- Consider adding a measure on predator management/exclusion to protect wading birds e.g. fencing to exclude badgers.