

**National Park Management Plan outcomes:** Natural Beauty; Climate Change and Natural Resources

**The Authority's contribution: Corporate Outcome A:** The landscapes of the National Park are valued for their beauty, character and natural resources and managed to adapt to the effects of climate change by ...

**Action 1:** *Ensuring landscapes are characterised, conserved and enhanced in accordance with their enduring and dynamic qualities (Priority level 1)*

At the end of 2008/09 we will have completed a landscape strategy and action plan that will set targets for the conservation and enhancement of the character of the National Park.

**During 2007/08 we ....**

- Produced a landscape character assessment to inform land use policies and practices for the National Park and also to inform local landscape characterisation
- Considered all planning applications within policy to protect and enhance the landscape including completing 34 section 106 agreements. 6 enforcement actions were taken related to landscape

**In 2008/09 we will ...**

- Produce a Strategy & Action Plan based on the new landscape character assessment and develop an appropriate way of monitoring the Authority's role
- Increase the percentage of the National Park secured within conservation agreements to 70% through the work of the Peak District Land Management Advisory Service

**Action 2:** *Promoting the importance of the landscapes as assets for the economy, the environment and local and other communities (Priority level 2)*

At the end of 2007/08 the percentage of the National Park where farmers and business owners have changed their practices (as a result of advice from, or action on the part of the Authority) was 82.4%. Our target for 2008/09 is 85%.

**During 2007/08 we ...**

- Worked with farmers and business owners through a range of national and local agri-environment schemes
- Advised the East Midlands Development Agency on research into the economic value of national parks

**In 2008/09 we will ...**

- Continue to work with farmers and business owners to secure participation in environmentally beneficial schemes
- Continue to influence the way in which national schemes are developed to promote the importance of protected landscapes to the economy

## Conservation of the Natural Environment

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**Action 3:** Promoting the need to protect the natural resources (such as water, soil and air quality) of the National Park (Priority level 1)

During 2008/09 we will produce an Action Plan on Climate Change for the National Park, with indicators to monitor achievement of actions.

### During 2007/08 we ...

- Completed 46 agri-environment scheme applications and 12 Environmental Enhancement Scheme agreements and monitored 60 others
- Completed 13 conservation plans and responded to 83 consultations and proposals for national agri-environment schemes
- Agreed a monitoring arrangement for National Park natural environment indicators with agencies such as the Environment Agency

### In 2008/09 we will ...

- Deliver agri-environment schemes, regulatory measures and project work (such as Sustainable Development Fund and Environmental Quality Mark)
- Recommend good practice on reducing carbon footprint to at least 2 external organisations
- Develop a National Park Action Plan to address climate change and begin its implementation

**National Park Management Plan outcome:** Biodiversity

**The Authority's contribution: Corporate Outcome E:** Increasing the quality, distinctiveness and resilience of the biodiversity of priority habitats and species consistent with climate change by...

**Action 1:** Influencing partners and land managers to achieve favourable (or at least recovering) Site of Special Scientific Interest condition of land in the Peak District (Priority level 1)

At the end of 2007/08 almost 75% of land designated as Site of Special Scientific Interest not owned by the Authority was in favourable or recovering condition. During 2008/09 we aim to increase this to 80%.

### During 2007/08 we ....

- Agreed, with partners, a core funding package to continue the Moors for the Future project and made a bid for extra funding from the European Union Life project
- Worked with Natural England and other partners to provide conservation guidance and advice

### In 2008/09 we will ...

- Develop a business plan for Moors for the Future longer term using the themes of awareness, conservation and research expertise
- Continue to work with Natural England and partners in the Peak District Land Management Advisory Service to provide conservation advice and guidance

## Conservation of the Natural Environment

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**Action 2:** Achieving favourable (or at least recovering) Site of Special Scientific Interest condition of all National Park Authority owned land (Priority level 3)

91% of the Authority's Site of Special Scientific Interest Land (SSSI) is now in favourable or recovering condition. Our target for 2008/09 is 92.5%.

### During 2007/08 we ...

- Increased the proportion of our Site of Special Scientific Interest land in favourable or recovering condition
- Demonstrated the improvements in our land in terms of conservation of wildlife and enjoyment for visitors to other land managers

### In 2008/09 we will ...

- Undertake further remedial work on the Site of Special Scientific Interest land on our estates such as fencing of moor on the Warslow Estate and the introduction of Highland cattle to graze purple moor grass

**Action 3:** Ensuring the achievement of all Biodiversity Action Plan targets (Priority level 1)

At the end of 2007/08 45% of targets in the Biodiversity Action Plan were considered to be on schedule. By the end of 2008/09 our monitoring will enable us to determine the percentage of land for each habitat that is under a conservation agreement.

### During 2007/08 we ...

- Secured over £400,00 in external funding (together with others in the local Biodiversity Action Plan partnership) to achieve the restoration of 17 ponds, creation of 8 new ponds, 100 hectares of grassland management and 21 hectares of lead rake management
- Restored over 5 square kilometres of moorland (working through the Moors for the Future project)

### In 2008/09 we will ...

- Continue to co-ordinate the work of conserving, restoring and enhancing Biodiversity Action Plan habitats and species

**National Park Management Plan outcome:** Economy

**The Authority's contribution: Corporate Outcome J:** Sustainable prosperity is achieved through a diverse economy, capitalising on the special and distinctive environment of the National Park by ...

**Action 1:** *Nurturing business development that supports and contributes to the environmental economy (Priority level 2)*

There are now 77 businesses holding an Environmental Quality Award (22 new awards were made in 2007/08) and 2 Business and the Environment supporting Small Scale Tourism exchange visits were made. In 2008/09 we will measure the total number of businesses participating in Authority-led or supported schemes, with a target of 1,500.

### During 2007/08 we ....

- Supported 12 new business start-ups, 13 projects with direct environmental enhancement and 19 new/ improved facilities/ attractions
- Created 36.7 jobs and safeguarded another 13.9

### In 2008/09 we will ...

- Facilitate new, and improvements to, business products/ services by leading or supporting applications to develop successor environmental economy schemes, through regional and European funding

**Action 2:** *Working with partners, Government agencies and funding bodies to improve the economic performance of local firms and to influence appropriate economic investment in the area (Priority level 2)*

In 2008/09 the Authority will seek to ensure that all new and relevant economic development documents reflect the outcomes of the National Park Management Plan. Additionally, we will seek to support at least 3 priority rural initiatives in securing economic development funding.

### During 2007/08 we ...

- Supported a partnership bid for a Leader programme for the Rural Action Zone area which was approved by East Midlands Development Agency and Advantage West Midlands and will provide £1.9 million funding over 6 years
- Worked with the Regional Development Agencies and other stakeholders to try to secure funding for successor rural development schemes
- Approved our Procurement Strategy and started implementing the action plan

### In 2008/09 we will ...

- Continue to work with key partnerships to secure funding for agreed priority initiatives, through regional and European funding
- Influence Regional Development Agencies to promote National Park values through funding programmes
- Influence key national, regional and local rural development strategies covering National Park communities

## Conservation of the Natural Environment

**Action 3:** Supporting land managers to manage the landscape sustainably whilst creating economic benefits for the wider community (Priority level 1)

At the end of 2007/08 9,997 hectares of land were in Entry Level schemes and 108,537 hectares were in Higher Level schemes. Our target for 2008/09 is to achieve 12,000 hectares for Entry Level schemes and maintain the achievement for Higher Level schemes.

### During 2007/08 we ...

- Brokered 46 environmental grant applications to national schemes
- Advised 52 farmers about habitat management for birds
- Recorded a very serious decline of 50% in lapwing numbers since 2001 but took action on 30 farms to at least halt the decline
- Carried out habitat improvement through 11 hectares of rush management and 22 scrapes

### In 2008/09 we will ...

- Assist land managers to access agri-environment, Environmental Quality Mark and economic schemes to maintain the amount of land in Higher Level schemes. Increases will be offset by reductions as some classic Higher Level agreements end
- Continue to develop local products and actions with businesses and communities to help achieve sustainable land management and biodiversity and heritage targets

<b>Financial Summary - Conservation of the Natural Environment</b>				
<b>£,000</b>	<b>2006/07</b>	<b>2007/08</b>	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>
Direct revenue expenditure	2,140	2,064	2,150	2,180
Depreciation	17	21	20	25
Employee costs	1,328	1,246	1,295	1,335
Recharged support costs	345	449	370	375
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>3,830</b>	<b>3,780</b>	<b>3,835</b>	<b>3,915</b>
Income: Sales Fees and Charges	(321)	(288)	(315)	(335)
Income: Other external funding	(1,811)	(1,466)	(1,500)	(1,500)
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>1,698</b>	<b>2,026</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>2,080</b>

## Conservation of Natural Environment

NPA COMPARISON			Ref	Indicator	ACHIEVED			Target Met	TARGET		
2007/08	Top 25%	Range			2005/06	2006/07	2007/08		2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
			A1.1	Percentage of the character of the National Park that is conserved & enhanced	NEW INDICATOR			n/a	-	Set baseline	
			A1.2	Develop indicator for Authority contribution as part of strategy & action plan <sup>1</sup>	NEW INDICATOR			n/a	-		
			A2.1	Percentage of National Park land where farmers & business owners have changed their practices as a result of advice from, or action on the part of, the National Park Authority.	NEW INDICATOR			n/a	-	85%	
				a) all land							
				b) excluding Authority-owned land	NEW INDICATOR			n/a	-	80%	
			A3.1	Indicators to be developed as part of the Climate Change Action Plan <sup>2</sup>	NEW INDICATOR			n/a	-	Produce baseline	
			E1.1	Area & percentage of Site of Special Scientific Interest land <b>NOT</b> owned by the Authority in favourable or recovering condition	NEW INDICATOR		74.7	n/a	-	80.8%	
			E2.1 (was LA18)	Percentage of Authority-owned Site of Special Scientific Interest land in favourable or recovering condition	86%	86%	91%	✓	90%	92.5%	
			E3.1	Percentage of land for each habitat under conservation agreement	NEW INDICATOR			n/a	-	Produce baseline	
			J1.1	Number of businesses participating in National Park Authority-led or supported schemes	NEW INDICATOR			n/a	-	1,300	
				a) farms							
				b) non farms	NEW INDICATOR		292	n/a	-	200*	
			J2.1	Number & degree of influences on new & relevant economic development documents	NEW INDICATOR			n/a	-	medium	
			J2.2	Number & percentage of National Park Authority agreed priority rural initiatives successful in securing funding	NEW INDICATOR			n/a	-	3	
								n/a	-	100%	
			J3.1	Area (ha) of land in the National Park covered by Environmental Schemes:	NEW INDICATOR			n/a		12,000ha	
				a) entry level							
				b) higher level	NEW INDICATOR		108,537 ha	n/a		109,000ha	

## Conservation of Natural Environment

NPA COMPARISON					ACHIEVED				TARGET		
2007/08	Top 25%	Range	Ref	Indicator	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Target Met	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
			NE1 (a & b)	Total area (ha) and percentage of National Park managed in line with National Park Authority conservation objectives	102,675 ha 71.4%	113,763 ha 79.1%	118,534 ha 82.4%	n/a	see footnote**	Superseded by J3.1	
☺	420	11 - 434	NE2	Number of external consultations completed	537	521	434	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
☺	100%	66 - 100%		Percentage completed within the required period (Family)	100%	100%	100%	✓	100%	100%	100%
			NA10	Number & percentage of targets in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan assessed to be on target	Awaiting national Biodiversity Action Plan review	17 31.5%	40*** 44.9%	✗	49%	Superseded by E3.1	
			LA14	Number of community projects (groups & individuals)	41	34	23****	✗	35	Monitor at service level	
			LA15	Natural Environment Conservation Projects which promote rural business opportunities:							
				- New Environment Economy	27	21	18	✗	20	Superseded by J1.1	
				- Number of jobs • created	28.2	21.2	36.7	✓	16	Superseded by J1.1	
				• safeguarded	18	15.5	13.9	✓	8		
				- Business and the Environment/Small Scale Tourism- number of exchange visits	2	2	3	✓	2	Superseded by J1.1	
			- Environmental Quality Mark - current awards	37	57	77	✓	70	Superseded by J1.1		

### FOOTNOTES:

\* Reduction due to loss of funding in projects such as New Environmental Economy

\*\* Figure inflated as Defra statistics are based on entire holdings rather than land in agreement. We are trying to improve data to obtain a more accurate figure

\*\*\* Increased number of actions/programmes from 54 to 89 being monitored at mid-term review

\*\*\*\* Due to reprioritisation of work

### SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Relevant indicators for monitoring will be put in place as part of strategy and action plan

<sup>2</sup> Relevant indicators for monitoring will be put in place as part of the Climate Change Action Plan