

## The Peak District





In the Peak District

- 27% designated (White Peak 6%)
- 70% privately owned
- National Trust own 12%
- Water Companies own 11%
- National Park Authority own 5%
- 86% Severely Disadvantaged Area (White Peak 85%)
- 86% agri-environment coverage in 2014 now <50%
- Range of holding size, types of farms and farmers
- Partnership working together is better
- Increasing awareness of the full range of public benefits provided by these landscapes



## Farming (2016)

#### BPS Income Average Income (£ per farm) Diversified Income £80,000 Agri-environment £70,100 Agriculture Ж £43,100 £57,800 £54,000 **X**Farm Business Income £60,000 Ж £50,000 Ж ж £43,800 Ж £28,800 £38,000 ж £27.000 £40,000 Ж £16.100 Ж ж £20,000 Ж £0 -£20,000 Dairy Pigs Cereals General Grazing Grazing Poultry Mixed All farms Horti-Livestock Livestock culture cropping (Lowland) (LFA)

Figure 3: Farm Business Income by Cost Centre<sup>1</sup> 2016/17

<sup>1</sup> The data shown are the averages across all farms in the sample including those that do not have any income within some of the cost centres. The resulting Farm Business Income is shown by the star and in text at the top of each column.

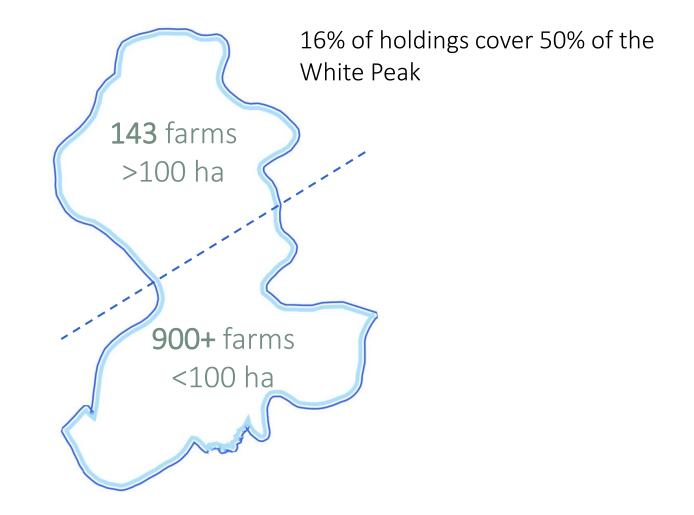


# Farming (2016)

NCA	Area (ha)	Number of commercial holdings	Holdings <20 ha	Holdings >100 ha	Area of holdings >100 ha	Dairy holdings	LFA Grazing Livestock	Cattle	Sheep
White Peak	52,860	726	247	143	24,886	103	505	67,662	182,301
Dark Peak	64,377	541	255	95	49,877	22	398	19,042	165,366
South West Peak	33,541	708	314	73	18,116	64	405	28,933	140,869



## White Peak farming





## White Peak farming

#### Mostly intensive dairy farming on the plateau





## White Peak farming

#### Beef and sheep farming on the plateau and dales





## Wildlife





Only 6% of the White Peak is covered by wildlife designation, mostly in the dales





## Policy context

Making Space for Nature (Lawton Review):

"...to enhance the resilience and coherence of England's ecological network [we need] **more, bigger, better and joined**."

Michael Gove:

"We will replace BPS with a system of **public money for public goods**"

25 Year Environment Plan:

"It is this Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it."



## Current Defra thinking...

Delivering, through farmers and land managers, the goals in the 25 Year Environment Plan for:

- Clean and plentiful water
- Clean air
- Thriving plants and wildlife
- Adaptation to and mitigation of climate change
- Reduction in and protection from environmental hazards
- Beauty, heritage and engagement with the environment.

Underpinned by **natural capital principles**.

A **new relationship** with farmers and land managers – a **contract** to deliver public goods alongside market products, not customers of subsidy.

#### Polluter pays principle.





### Public good or ecosystem service?

- **Public good** *non-excludable, non-rivalrous* and open to all in its consumption.
- "...a good or service in which the benefit received by any one party does not diminish the availability of the benefits to others, and where access to the good cannot be restricted." (National Ecosystem Assessment)
- **Ecosystem service** direct and indirect contributions of ecosystems to human survival and quality of life.
  - Provisioning services products obtained from ecosystems, such as food
  - Regulating services e.g. climate regulation and water purification
  - Habitat services habitats for species to maintain the viability of populations and gene-pools
  - Cultural services non-material benefits such as recreation or aesthetic value



### Public good or ecosystem service?

Sometimes they're the same:

Ecosystem service = Regulating water quality

Public good = Clean water

Sometimes they're nearly the same, but not quite:

Ecosystem service = Climate regulation

Public good = Climate change mitigation

Sometimes they're not the same:

Ecosystem service = Food provision

Public good = n/a



## Why the White Peak?

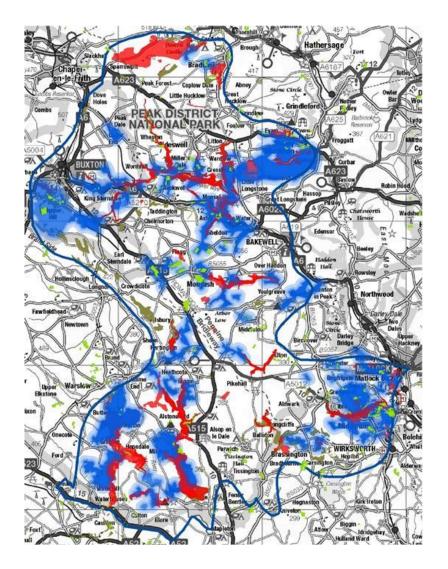
- The White Peak is a pre-defined National Character Area
- All National Character Areas have a profile document
- Profile document already defines which ecosystem services can be delivered in the White Peak, and what their status is





## Why the White Peak?

- Is a multi-interest landscape
- Contains a variety of farming types, including intensive farming
- 70% of the White Peak is within the Peak District National Park, so has additional support and co-ordination
- Already considering delivery of some public goods, e.g. nature recovery networks
- Most fragmented habitats of any NCA in a National Park





## Public goods in the White Peak

Public goods that could be delivered in the White Peak:

- Carbon storage and climate change mitigation
- 2. Clean water
- 3. Lowering flood risk

- 4. Cultural heritage
- 5. Recreation
- 6. Biodiversity
- 7. Geodiversity





## **Defra Policy Questions**

Defra has pre-defined questions they would like Tests & Trials to answer. In the White Peak, these are:

- 1. What mechanism will scheme participants use to plan and record which public goods they will deliver?
- 2. Is there a role for local prioritisation of public goods based on National Character Areas?





## Mechanism to plan & record

In the White Peak, we will be asking the questions:

- 1. What role do National Character Areas have in land management plans?
- 2. How do you translate landscape scale objectives to the holding level?

### In the White Peak, we will also ask:

1. What data/ information will system participants require?





## Local prioritisation

In the White Peak, we will be asking the questions:

- 1. Is there a role for prioritisation of public goods based on National Character Areas?
- 2. Is there a role for National Character Areas to facilitate collaboration?

In the White Peak, we will also ask:

1. What is the role of an adviser in supporting the development of land management plans?



- 1. Carry out an assessment of whether the current White Peak National Character Area Profile is fit for purpose
- Test with farmers and land managers the usefulness of a National Character Area Profile summary document that sets out the public goods that can be delivered in the White Peak
- 3. Run **three workshops** to test how a National Character Area framework can be used to design and deliver land management plans and if it can be used to prioritise delivery of public goods
- 4. Carry out **25 one-to-one meetings** with farmers and land managers to test how a National Character Area framework can be used to design and deliver land management plans
- 5. Produce and test the usefulness of a **carbon 'rearly reckoner'** a simple carbon assessment tool for farmers and land managers to use in calculating carbon release and storage
- 6. Produce and test the usefulness of a simple **farm budget 'ready reckoner'** that takes into account delivery of public goods



### Healthy soils – a natural capital asset

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- 4. Cultural heritage
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## Grassland soils and carbon

"Globally, soils contain about three times the amount of carbon in vegetation and twice that in the atmosphere."

"...grasslands greater than five years [old] will store more carbon."

"Grassland soils contribute to carbon sequestration, with acid grasslands and dry grassy heaths outperforming habitats like woodlands"