

Coastal Habitat Restoration and Creation in North West England 2025: Workshop Outcomes

Workshop 2

Question 2.1:

a. What habitat strategies, plans and projects currently exist? (LNRS, SMP, Coastal Strategy, Habitat Management Plans)

b. Who is leading their development?

| Plan/Strategy/Project | Leading Development |
|---|----------------------------|
| North West Marine Plan | MMO |
| Solway National Landscapes Management Plan | Solway National Landscape |
| MPA Network – Some management plans | Natural England |
| Morecambe Bay Seascape Restoration Working Group | |
| Fisheries Management Plans | |
| Blackpool Marine Plan | |
| Nature North Coasts + Fisheries | |
| Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) | Local Authorities |
| FCRM Strategy | |
| Marine Protected Area | Estuary Partnerships |
| Management Plans | Individual Partnerships |
| UK Marine Strategy | Defra, MSFD |
| UK Biodiversity Action Plan | |
| National Adaptation Plans (Climate change) | Defra |
| Environmental Improvement Plans | Defra |
| River Basin Management Plans (being renamed) | EA |
| Protected sites strategies | NE |
| GB Non-native species strategy (APHA) | |
| Global Biodiversity Framework – UN Sustainability Goals | |
| Catchment Plans | CaBa Catchment Partnership |

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| Site Improvement Plans (IPENS project) - Are these still used? | Natural England 2015 |
| ReMeMaRe 5-year plan | EA led partnership |
| A strategic investment plan for a nature positive regional economy | Nature North |
| ReWrite | |
| Marine Strategy Framework | |
| Landscape Recovery Projects | Defra |
| Flood and Coast Risk Management Strategy | EA/LA |
| Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy | |
| UK National Biodiversity Strategy · Scottish Biodiversity Strategy captured within this (Scottish Govt) | Defra |
| Wyre Rivers Trust | LCC/ Wyre Council |
| Regional Enhancement Plans – development in Shetland +Orkney Nationally there is a Marine Restoration Plan in development | |
| BNG | |
| Partnership working · Government agencies to County + Local councils | |
| Our Future Coast | |
| Natural Flood Management – Wyre NFM | |
| Environmental Charities | |
| NW MMO Marine Plan | |
| All CaBa Plans | |
| Wyre Integrated Catchment Plan | Wyre Water Catchment Partnership |
| Nature Conservation Strategy (Sefton) | Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership |
| All local plans | Local authorities |
| Port masterplan | Statutory Habitat Authority |
| Biosecurity Action Plans | |
| LNRS | |

| GI Strategies | Local Authorities |
|--|--|
| Solway Coast National Landscape management plan | |
| River basin management plan (some but not all) | |
| Flood risk management plans | |
| Catchment management plans – EA, SEPA | |
| Fisheries management plans - EA | |
| ReMeMaRe | |
| LINC | |
| Solway Carbon Project | |
| CLEARCoasts | |
| SCNL | |
| UK BAP | |
| Local Cumbria BAP | |
| Fylde Sand Dunes Management Plans | Project partners (LWT, Fylde Council, Blackpool Council, EA) |
| Adaptation pathways | Local Authorities |
| Coastal Strategies (Lancashire, Fylde, Blackpool, Wyre, Sefton, Cumbria) | Local Councils, landowners + coastal partnerships |
| North west shoreline management plan | EA coastal group |
| Highly protected marine areas (Allonby) | NE + local authorities councils |
| National parks + Biodiversity Action plans | |
| ARC – species management plans + strategy | |
| Protected sites (SSSI's, SPA's, SAC's, RAMSAR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Site management plans · Views about management | NE |
| Cumbria Wildlife Trust + Wildlife trusts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Site specific restoration + national strategy/aims | |
| RSPB + other conservation bodies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Own site specific management plans + restoration | |
| Environmental land management schemes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · SFI · CS HT | |

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| · LR | |
| National Trust? | |
| United Utilities – improvements to catchments | |
| Local councils · Access routes · Wildlife · countryside act · footpaths ECP | |
| Countryside code · ramblers · friends of the lake district · right to roam · open access | |
| National Landscapes - council | |
| Nature Recovery Network (NRN) | Defra / NE |
| Parish Councils | |
| English Heritage | |
| Historic England | |
| Co-opt - research project on nature-based solutions | NOC |
| Biodiversity action plan | |
| Species action plan | |
| LNRS Sefton Coast Habitat Conservation Strategy | MEAS |
| Merseyside Biobank | |
| Frontal woodland management | Sefton Coast, Natural England |
| New ‘landscape connections’ programmes in development (for NHLF – 10 year life span) e.g. one for Arnsdale and Silverdale National Landscape being written by Morecambe Bay Partnership (but a long way from secure funding) | |
| Legacy projects? e.g. Back on our map (2019 – 2023) | |

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| * HLF Species project led by University of Cumbria and Morecambe Bay Partnership | |
| * loads of scooping done around other species that could be taken forward | |
| Woodland + Dune management | National Trust at Formby |
| Green Sefton – Sefton Coast habitat management | |
| Mersey Rivers Trust – Alt Crossens partnership | |
| Mersey catchment partnerships | |
| Natural flood management project (£2 mil) | |
| Irish Sea Marine Network | Wildlife Trusts |
| Life on the edge | RSPB |
| Our Future Coast (II) (hopefully) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Wyre · North West Coastal body · Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) · Coastal Cell group | |
| Nature North Northern Coasts + Estuaries – multi-partner conservation, gov + funds RSPB for coasts | |
| Organisational plans | e.g. RSPB, NE, National Landscapes and have their own plans |
| MoD – individual organisation plan | Ministry of Defence |
| United Utilities – individual organisation plan | United Utilities |
| Investing in Nature for the North (Strategic Plan) – Nature North | |
| Land Use framework consultation - Defra | |
| Catchment Management plans – catchment partnerships | |

Question 2.2 (a): Are strategies, plans and projects currently interlinked effectively?

| Yes | No | Maybe |
|-----|----|-------|
| | 15 | 4 |

| Comments | | |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · we all think not as well as they could be · keeping plans/strategies up to date is challenging · not as much as they should be · not yet but there is willingness and it appears people want these conversations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · not sure but flooding and water quality is catchment based - LNRS would be suited to tie in this area · not sure! existing projects were all conceived/set up before LNRS came along · on a local scale, yes · nationally, no <p>Scotland/England not interlinked + LNRS too</p> |

Question 2.2 (B): Would a workshop figuring out how they are interlinked be helpful?

| Yes | No | Maybe |
|---|----|--|
| 5 | 1 | 13 |
| Comments | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · allowing people to come together will always be helpful, to show understanding and ask complex questions - required to interlink · if - “right” people/organisations are involved to enable movement | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · pay for a consultant to figure it out - a workshop would be really tricky to do · Yes! It would be good to have one but its usefulness will depend on the outcomes of the workshop · Need an easy-to-access, easy-to-visualise, up-to-date and comprehensive map or organogram of projects + |

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| | | <p>strategies and how they are interlinked</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · but needs to be really focused + properly facilitated, with some in depth background work carried out beforehand. There has been a lot of duplication + stakeholder/ partner exhaustion = desire is there to get good outcomes if above is enacted · if all relevant bodies added · you also have to have the right people <p>expert advisory panel - should be agenda item not workshop</p> |
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Question 2.3: Would a regional coastal habitat strategy help? If so, who needs to be involved?

| Yes | No | Maybe |
|---|---|--|
| 10 | 1 | 12 |
| Comments | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · if it's a practical, achievable and worthwhile group - not a plan on a shelf · strategy is great but unless delivery comes after, it risks being another empty | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · there are already too many · a summary of existing strategies rather than a new strategy would be useful | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · do we need another plan? · if it leads to beneficial delivery · if written by practitioners · generic workshops have less value |

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| <p>strategy that sits on a shelf - include: delivery funding, project pipelines, capacity building, comms, etc!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · but not if constrained by local authority boundaries · in form of subgroup <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - need to aim to avoid disconnect between terrestrial focused strategy | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · you need the people with the right knowledge · target existing planners |
| <p>Who needs to be involved?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Local authorities: Fylde, Blackpool, Wyre, Sefton · Environment Agency · Schools · AI · NW Wildlife Trust: Lancashire Wildlife Trust/ Cumbria Wildlife Trust · MMO · Universities · RSPB · IFCA · Private landowners · National Trust · Our Future Coast · Crown Estates · Rivers Trust · Natural England · Planning Authorities · Peel ports + other port authorities · Coastal Groups · RFCC · Funders · Metro mayor + Politicians · Nature North · Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS) · Merseyside Biobank · Cheshire Record · eNGOs · Councils | | |

- Landowners - NFU
- Private Sector
- Academics
- Government Agencies
- ALBs
- Record Data Centres
- Coastal Partnerships
- Will NWME go some way into improving join up without necessarily having more workshops?
- Work with Nature North to avoid duplication
- Coastal restoration specialists
- LNRS developers/responsible bodies
- Local authorities
- Coastal partnerships
- Water authority
- Government (MPs)
- Communities (public)
- Researchers
- Industry
- NGOs
- Statutory bodies
- Consultancies
- Community groups
- Nature Scot
- Scottish Government - Marine Directorate
- Local stakeholders
- NW + NW Coastal Group: links to politicians (councils + MPs), Natural Capital
- Peel ports
- CaBa partnerships
- National Landscapes
- ARC
- National Parks
- World Heritage: Historic England/English Heritage
- NWCF: regional voice, brings together collective voice for the area
- local coastal partnerships
- local communities/orgs feed up (bottom-up)