A group of people hiking

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

**the North West Coast**

**What’s Happening on**

**2025**

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AI-generated content may be incorrect.

*North West Coastal Forum, March 2025*

*North West Coastal Forum, March 2022*

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# Introduction

**Aims**

The aims of the ‘What’s Happening on the North West Coast’ reports are *to provide a comprehensive overview of strategic actions and policies* at sub-regional or regional scale of significance for the North West coast, which contribute to creating a more sustainable future for our coast, and to *help organisations working on the coast to identify key gaps in activity and find opportunities for shared learning, best practice and future collaboration*.

The information will be made available in a freely available, online and updatable[[1]](#footnote-1) resource which will be published on the North West Coastal Forum website at [www.nwcoastalforum.org.uk](http://www.nwcoastalforum.org.uk)

**Background**

This report was produced as part of the North West Coastal Forum’s 3Cs funded project.

Data for the report was gathered by:

* A news item on the NWCF website requesting information; this news item also formed part of the NWCF’s spring 2025 e-newsletter
* A survey sent out to members of the North West Coastal Forum Expert Advisory Committee
* A workshop session out the NWCF’s Regional Coastal Habitat Restoration and Creation conference in March 2025.

To keep the report live it will continue to be updated as new information becomes available. If you have more information to include please email [info@nwcoastalforum.org.uk](mailto:info@nwcoastalforum.org.uk)

This report was produced as part of Coastal Forums 3Cs funded project and this is how we gathered data: from a survey to our EAC members, published on our website and through the Coastal Habitat Restoration and Creation in North West England 2025 conference workshop.

Championing Coastal Coordination (3Cs) is an Environment Agency initiative with support from Natural England, the Marine Management Organisation and the Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities. It is a collaboration seeking to explore how to enhance and progress coordination for coastal sustainability and resilience in England.

The North West Coastal Forum (NWCF) is a registered charity (1206825) with the aim: To promote and advance, for the public benefit, the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in the coastal areas of North West England including those under other national jurisdictions and education in sustainable development by:

• The provision of conferences, workshops and other dissemination mechanisms;

• Providing information and advice to inform, for the public benefit, relevant policy, legislation, plans, strategies and projects;

• Facilitating and enabling coordination and collaboration between coastal and estuarine partnerships and other relevant bodies across the north west; in particular to encourage knowledge sharing and increase collective understanding of and competency in coastal management issues;

• Advancing scientific knowledge through the commissioning and carrying out of research on coastal management issues and participation in research initiated by other organisations, and by promoting the study of and research into relevant coastal management subjects, provided that the useful results of such studies are disseminated to the public at large,

• Initiating projects and participating in projects initiated by other organisations in order to advance public knowledge and understanding of coastal management and its benefits for long term sustainability; working together across boundaries to deliver economic, environmental and social benefits for coastal communities in North West England by promoting and helping to deliver integrated coastal zone management to secure the long-term sustainability of the North West coast.

# Strategic Information

The tables on the following pages give information provided by a range of organisations across the North West about regional or sub-regional policies and strategies, and activities, including research work, undertaken either alone or in partnership with others, that are potentially significant for or of interest to coastal communities, industry and the marine and coastal environment of the North West – including the Scottish and Welsh parts of the Solway Firth and Dee Estuary.

**IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER:** the information in the tables below has been provided for publication by a range of external organisations and is reproduced here in good faith; as such the North West Coastal Forum is not responsible for any errors or inaccuracies but will endeavour to correct any inaccuracies if these are found. **Please check information provided before relying on it** and report any errors or inaccuracies found to [info@nwcoastalforum.org.uk](mailto:info@nwcoastalforum.org.uk)

## Strategic vision and outcomes

A strategic vision for the North West coast, underpinned by 6 strategic outcomes, which was developed in 2008 for the Regional Coastal Strategy is reproduced below. For future iterations of this What’s Happening on the North West Coast the vision and outcomes will be revisited and updated.

***Strategic Vision:*** *Our vision for the North West coast is that, by 2032, it will be a place of diverse use and beauty, with thriving, and sustainable communities where quality of life is matched by economic success, social equity and well-being; where the immense natural and cultural resources that characterise our coastline and near-shore areas are appreciated as key regional assets and are protected and managed for the long-term benefit of all; above all a place where our children and our children’s children wish to be.*

***Strategic Outcomes:***

*PM - Well-integrated planning and management of the coastal zone including achieving coherence between adjacent terrestrial and marine spatial plans*

*EP - The economic, social and cultural potential of the North West coast achieved in ways which safeguard, enhance, restore and sustainably use our natural and cultural assets*

*CC - Improved wellbeing of coastal communities*

*RV - Improved recreational opportunities and visitor experience*

*HQ - A high quality natural and built coastal environment able to adapt to climate and other change*

*RA - Raised appreciation of the coast, its value and its needs*

Many of the entries listed below are cross cutting, so to avoid repetition, the 2 letter codes above are used to indicate which of the strategic outcomes they help to achieve. To aid navigation they are arranged by geographic area and a quick reference matrix is provided showing all the items listed and their fit with the themed strategic outcomes below, in geographic area/coverage.

## Quick Reference Matrix

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Strategic Policy, Strategy, Activity** | **PM** | **EP** | **CC** | **RV** | **HQ** | **RA** |
| Well-integrated planning and management of the coastal zone including achieving coherence between adjacent terrestrial and marine spatial plans | The economic, social and cultural potential of the North West coast achieved in ways which safeguard, enhance, restore and sustainably use our natural and cultural assets | Improved wellbeing of coastal communities | Improved recreational opportunities and visitor experience | A high quality natural and built coastal environment able to adapt to climate and other change | Raised appreciation of the coast, its value and its needs |
| International | | | | | | |
| **Irish Sea Maritime Forum** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Irish Sea Network** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **REWRITE** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **National** | | | | | | |
| **National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Strategy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Co-Opt (Co-benefit Solutions for Resilient Coasts) research project** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **UK Marine Strategy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **UK Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Regional** | | | | | | |
| **The North West Marine Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Shoreline management Plan 22 (North West England and North Wales)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **NW Regional Flood and Coastal Committee** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **North West and North Wales Coastal Group** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Investing in Nature for the North – A Strategic Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **North West Coastal Forum** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Turing Tides Partnership and the LOVEmyBEACH campaign** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **North West Regional Coastal Monitoring programme** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Our Future Coast** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **North West River Basin District: Catchment flood management plans** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **United Utilities: Investment Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **United Utilities: Business Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **King Charles III England Coast Path** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Dee Estuary & Cross Border with Wales** | | | | | | |
| **Coastal water quality modelling for the Welsh coast** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **LIFE Dee River** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Our Dee Estuary project** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Tidal Dee Catchment Partnership Action Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cheshire** | | | | | | |
| **Cheshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Merseyside** | | | | | | |
| **Liverpool City Region & W Lancs Joint Recreation Mitigation Strategy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Mersey Ports Master Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Liverpool Local Nature Recovery Strategy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sefton Coast Plan: Visioning Position Statement 2021** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sefton Coast Local Nature Conservation Strategy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Conservation Work at Formby** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Lancashire** | | | | | | |
| **Lancashire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2021 – 2027** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **St Annes Seawall Scheme, St Annes Town Centre & Island Masterplan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Fylde Coast Sand Dune Management Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Wyre Beach Management Scheme** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Wyre Estuary BioBlitz** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Wyre Estuary Gateway Project** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery Project** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Calder and Colne Landscape Links (CCaLL)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **West Pennines More Nature Partnership (WPMNP)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Wyre Rivers Trust and Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Fylde Council Coastal Strategy 2015 - 2032** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Lancashire and Cumbria Cross Border** | | | | | | |
| **The Bay: a Blueprint for Recovery** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cumbria** | | | | | | |
| **Grey Seal Monitoring** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Morecambe Bay Seascape Restoration Group** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cumbria Coastal Strategy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Penrith to Kendal Arc Landscape Recovery Project** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Resilient Glenderamackin** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Upper Irthing PRISM Project** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Port of Workington Master Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cumbria Wildlife Trust: Five-year strategy 2020 - 2025** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Solway Firth and Cross Border with Scotland** | | | | | | |
| **Solway Coast and Marine Project (SCAMP)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Solway Coast Management Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Solway Carbon Project** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **CLEARcoasts Project** |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## International

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Irish Sea Maritime Forum**  The ISMF, established in 2012, aims to:   * provide a broad-based forum for all Irish Sea users and provide an opportunity for voices to be heard * facilitate marine planning knowledge exchange and capacity building across all administrative areas and sectors * facilitate sharing of data and information * encourage and maintain political support for transnational partnership working in support of marine planning, with the aim of promoting sustainable development in the Irish Sea region * facilitate a more coordinated, efficient planning process for transnational issues/projects and good working relationships among Irish Sea partners | A voluntary secretariat is provided jointly by the Universities of Aberystwyth, Cardiff and Ulster, working with the Severn Estuary Partnership. The Steering Group is Chaired by Irish Senator Gerry Horkan and includes representatives from a wide range of organisations including governments, marine planning authorities, other statutory agencies, NGOs, sector representatives and academia from all 6 jurisdictions around the Irish Sea; NW England involvement includes Liverpool University, the North West Coastal Forum, Natural England, the NW IFCA, the Wildlife Trusts, the MMO and Historic England. | Ongoing | In 2021 the ISMF published research into the Future and Changing Context of the Irish Sea in the 2020s. The research captured a wide range of views on the reasons why the Irish Sea is an important and special place and a draft set of ‘Irish Sea Headlines’ was developed for use by organisations developing policy or projects in the Irish Sea. The intention is to test and refine these at the next Irish Sea Maritime Forum conference.  For more information see <http://www.irishseamaritimeforum.org/about/> | PM  EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Irish Sea Network**  This is a partnership comprising of representatives from conservation organisations surrounding the Irish Sea. Its purpose is to improve the understanding of marine conservation activities and pressures across the Irish Sea, and to provide a forum for communication and co-operation by members.  It is funded by [*Esmée Fairbairn Foundation*](https://esmeefairbairn.org.uk/) and the [*John Ellerman Foundation*](https://ellerman.org.uk/)*.* | Members include Manx Wildlife Trust, North Wales Wildlife Trust, North West Wildlife Trusts (lead), Scottish Wildlife Trust, Sustainable Water Network (SWAN), The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales, and Ulster Wildlife. | There is funding for 5 years but hope the network will continue after this time | An Irish Sea Day was held in 2024.  A ‘Ecological Considerations for Marine Spatial Planning in the Irish Sea’ report has been published.  The Network has produced a review of the Irish Sea 2022.  The Network has shared their vision for 2030.  For more information see: [Irish Sea Network](https://www.livingseasnw.org.uk/what-we-do/marine-conservation-projects/marine-policy/irish-sea-network)  [Irish Sea Network | Living Seas North West](https://www.livingseasnw.org.uk/what-we-do/marine-conservation-projects/marine-policy/irish-sea-network) | PM  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**  This is an agreement that was adopted at the end of COP15 in December 2022. The framework sets out to guide global action on nature through to 2030. It is a roadmap that aims to halt and reverse biodiversity loss. The agreement was adopted by 196 countries. | United Nations, 196 countries | 2022 - 2030 | 4 overarching goals:   * halt human-induced species extinction * the sustainable use of biodiversity * equitable sharing of benefits * implementation and finance to close the biodiversity finance gap of $700 billion per year   There are 23 targets, including:   * 30% conservation of land, sea and inland waters * 30 per cent restoration of degraded ecosystems * halving the introduction of invasive species * $500 billion/year reduction in harmful subsidies   Find out more about the GBF here: [Global Biodiversity Framework](https://www.unep.org/interactives/biodiversity-sdgs-tool/global-biodiversity-framework.html) | EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **REWRITE**  This is a partnership, with the aim of revitalising Europe’s intertidal areas through rewilding. There are 10 demonstrator areas where the partners are studying the effects of climate change and human activity on intertidal soft sediment (ISS). The demonstrator sites are spread out across Europe, USA and Canada – and studies focus on the key habitats: seagrass meadows, saltmarsh and mudflats.  The focus of REWRITE includes:   * Connecting Climate, Nature, and People * Demonstration sites & Key habitats * System Thinking * Innovative Tools | Nantes Universite (leading), amongst both social science and natural science organisation including: Geonardo, Universite Angers, University of Essex, University of Hull, University of Southern Denmark, Universidade de Aveiro, Universidad de Cadiz, Harokopio University, Saint Marys University, Unimes Universite, Sapienza - Universita de Roma, Universite Caen Normandie, Le Mans Universite, Universitat Bremen, Centre Nacional de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), CEA, NOW, The California State University, Mount Allison University, Trinity College Dublin, Instituto de Ciencias Marinas de Andalucia (ICMAN), Ghent University,University of Twente, La Rochelle Universite | Ongoing | Current work in the UK includes features of the Essex Estuaries complex.  Find out more here: [Welcome | REWRITE](https://rewriteproject.eu/) | EP  HQ |

## National

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Strategy**  A strategic document containing many coastal related measures. It describes what needs to be done by all risk management authorities (RMAs) involved in flood and coastal erosion risk management for the benefit of people and places. | Environment Agency (lead), North West & North Wales Coastal Group members (delivery in North West England) | Ongoing, until 2100 | The National FCERM Strategy is now officially live. The North West & North Wales Coastal Group will be working collaboratively with the Environment Agency over the coming years to support the development of the strategy action plan and ensuring that the future coastal FCERM work programme in North West England is aligned to support the delivery of the strategy.  For more information, see: [National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England – GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-flood-and-coastal-erosion-risk-management-strategy-for-england--2) | PM  CC  EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Co-Opt (Co-benefit Solutions for Resilient Coasts) research project**  Research into nature-based solutions and development of tools that enable assessments of their benefits. Co-Opt (Co-benefit Solutions for Resilient Coasts) delivers a new integrated and interdisciplinary system-based framework that will effectively support the required transition from hard ‘grey’ defences to softer ‘green’ solutions in coastal and shoreline management.  The project is funded by the Sustainable Management of UK Marine Resources programme. | National Oceanography Centre (lead), University of Liverpool, Cranfield University, St Andrew’s University. | 2021 to 2024 | The Co-opt project has produced several outputs.  Project outputs include:   * [Back to the future: the story of, and lessons from, the managed realignment of Hesketh Out Marsh (pdf)](https://projects.noc.ac.uk/co-opt/sites/co-opt/files/documents/managed-realignment-hesketh-out-mars.pdf" \t "_blank) * [Transitioning to nature-based solutions to manage risks from flooding and erosion at the coast: understanding different perceptions on what is needed to achieve this (pdf)](https://projects.noc.ac.uk/co-opt/sites/co-opt/files/documents/wp1-infographic-set-recommendations.pdf" \t "_blank) * [Coastal Futures paper – Is the coastal future green, grey or hybrid (pdf)](https://projects.noc.ac.uk/co-opt/sites/co-opt/files/documents/apine_stojanovic_2024_coastal_futures.pdf" \t "_blank) * [SMMR Workshop Report – Transdiciplinary use of coastal data (pdf)](https://projects.noc.ac.uk/co-opt/sites/co-opt/files/documents/SMMR%20Workshop%20Report%20-%20Transdiciplinary%20use%20of%20coastal%20data.pdf" \t "_blank) * [SSM Workshop Report – Using Soft Systems Modelling to understand decision making about coastal schemes (pdf)](https://projects.noc.ac.uk/co-opt/sites/co-opt/files/documents/SSM_Workshop_Report-Using_Soft_Systems_Modelling.pdf" \t "_blank)   Co-OPT summary: <https://www.smmr.org.uk/funded-projects/co-benefit-solutions-for-resilient-coasts-co-opt/>  [Outputs | Resilient Coasts: Optimising Co-Benefit Solutions](https://projects.noc.ac.uk/co-opt/outputs) | PM  EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **UK Marine Strategy**  This Strategy outlines what delivery mechanisms contribute to Good Environmental Status (GES) in UK Seas. Currently, the strategy is set up on a 3 part cycle that renews every 6 years. | Defra | 2025 – 2031 | For more information, please see: [Marine strategy part three: 2025 UK programme of measures – GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/marine-strategy-part-three-2025-uk-programme-of-measures) | PM  EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **UK Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan**  This strategy outlines how the UK will halt and reverse biodiversity loss, in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) (see separate entry). | JNCC, United Nations | 2025 - 2030 | For more information, please see: [UK NBSAP launched | JNCC - Adviser to Government on Nature Conservation](https://jncc.gov.uk/news/uk-nbsap-launched/#:~:text=The%20National%20Biodiversity%20Strategy%20and%20Action%20Plan%20%28NBSAP%29,world%20is%20essential%20for%20humanity%E2%80%99s%20prosperity%20and%20wellbeing.) | EP  CC  HQ |

## Regional

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **The North West Marine Plan**  The North West Marine Plan, prepared under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, introduces a strategic approach to planning within the English inshore and offshore waters between the Solway Firth border with Scotland and the River Dee border with Wales. It provides a policy framework to help inform decision-making and provides a clear, evidence-based approach to inform decision-making by marine users and regulators on where, when or how activities might take place within the North West inshore and offshore plan areas, balancing environmental, economic and social factors.  Due to the commonalities and dependencies between the inshore and offshore marine plan areas, a single document has been produced (the North West Marine Plan) but It is acknowledged that they remain two separate plans as specified in legislation – the North West Inshore Marine Plan and the North West Offshore Marine Plan. | MMO (lead), regulators and decision makers including statutory agencies and local authorities (delivery) | Ongoing, the plan will be reviewed at intervals of no more than 3 years. | Agreed and adopted by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in 2021 and published in June 2021.  A monitoring survey on use of the marine plan closed on 27th January 2025.  For more information see:  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-north-west-marine-plans-documents>  [Explore marine plans](https://explore-marine-plans.marineservices.org.uk/marine-plans-explorer) | PM  EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Shoreline management Plan 22 Great Ormes Head to Scotland (North West England and North Wales)**  The Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is a non-statutory, high level policy document for coastal flood and erosion risk management planning. Covering the area between Great Orme’s Head in North Wales and the English coast to the Scottish it provides a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal processes, and identifies the most sustainable policies for managing flood and coastal erosion risks in the short-term (0-20 years), medium-term (20-50 years) and long-term (50-100 years). SMPs form an important part of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) strategy for managing risks due to flooding and coastal erosion.  As well as the overarching SMP there is an associated Action Plan. The North West and North Wales Coastal Group (see separate entry) is responsible for the management and monitoring of the delivery of the Shoreline Management Plan and reports annually on progress made in delivery the SMP Action Plan.  The North West Shoreline Management Plan 22 is split into 5 areas.   * [Llandudno to Southport 11A](https://environment.data.gov.uk/shoreline-planning/subsection/SMP22/11A) * [Southport to Rossall Point 11B](https://environment.data.gov.uk/shoreline-planning/subsection/SMP22/11B) * [Rossall Point to Hodbarrow Point 11C](https://environment.data.gov.uk/shoreline-planning/subsection/SMP22/11C) * [Hodbarrow Point to St. Bees Head 11D](https://environment.data.gov.uk/shoreline-planning/subsection/SMP22/11D) * [St Bees Head to the Scottish Border 11E](https://environment.data.gov.uk/shoreline-planning/subsection/SMP22/11E) | North West & North Wales Coastal Group (lead) and its member organisations | Ongoing | The 2nd SMP 22 was adopted in August 2016 and has recently undergone a refresh process.  For more information see:  [Great Ormes Head to Scotland SMP22 | Shoreline Management Plans](https://environment.data.gov.uk/shoreline-planning/shoreline-management-plan/SMP22)  <https://www.mycoastline.org.uk/shoreline-management-plans>  [Shoreline Management Plans – North West Coastal Group](https://www.mycoastline.org.uk/shoreline-management-plans/) | PM  EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **NW Regional Flood and Coastal Committee**  The NW Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) is a committee established by the Environment Agency under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 that brings together members appointed by Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) and independent members with relevant experience for 3 purposes:   * to ensure there are coherent plans for identifying, communicating and managing flood and coastal erosion risks across catchments and shorelines * to encourage efficient, targeted and risk-based investment in flood and coastal erosion risk management that represents value for money and benefits local communities * to provide a link between the Environment Agency, LLFA, other risk management authorities, and other relevant bodies to build understanding of flood and coastal erosion risks in the North West.   Five sub-regional strategic flood risk partnerships underpin the RFCC to provide more local co-ordination, prioritisation and monitoring of actions and investment. These include Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership, Lancashire Flood Partnership, Merseyside FCERM Partnership and Cheshire Mid-Mersey Partnership. The RFCC also has links with the North West & North Wales Coastal Group. | Environment Agency (lead), Lead Local Flood Authorities, independent members including United Utilities | Ongoing | New Business Plan 2022-2025 published.  For more information see <https://thefloodhub.co.uk/north-west-rfcc/> | PM  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **North West and North Wales Coastal Group**  The North West North Wales Coastal Group is one of six Coastal Groups in England. The North and West North Wales Coastal Group is a strategic partnership focused on developing a long-term sustainable vision for the North West Coast by encouraging proactive management and pooling resources across the region for flood and coastal erosion risk management. It is a group of Local Authorities, the Environment Agency and other organisations who provide flood and coastal erosion risk management for the coastline from Great Orme’s Head in Wales to the Scottish Border on the Solway Firth, the area covered by SMP 22 (see separate entry). There are also two sub-groups formed of coastal practitioners: **Liverpool Bay Coastal Sub-Group** spans from Conwy County Council to Sefton Council. The **Northern Coastal Sub-Group** spans from West Lancashire Borough Council to Allerdale Council.  The North West & North Wales Coastal Group is responsible for monitoring and delivery of the Shoreline Management Plan and works closely with and reports to **the North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee** (see separate entry) to contribute coastal expertise and inform flood and coastal erosion risk management investment programmes. | Environment Agency, Coast Protection Authorities including Wyre Council (Chair), Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Historic England, MMO, Welsh Government, Network Rail, North West Coastal Forum, NW Regional Flood and Coastal Committee | Ongoing | The group is actively working on delivering recommendations from the SMP Refresh process, including recently completing work on policy sub-categorisation. It has also successfully bid for Resilience Innovation Funding for a ground-breaking project piloting the use of natural coastal buffer strips (Our Future Coast – see separate entry).  For more information see: <https://www.mycoastline.org.uk/> | PM  EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Investing in Nature for the North – A Strategic Plan for a Nature Positive Regional Economy**  This strategic plan was launched by Nature North in February 2025. It is developed for leaders, policymakers, investors, businesses and stakeholders. The strategy sets out to highlight the investment potential of nature and the natural environment.  Key components of the strategy include:   * A summary of the economic opportunity of investing in nature. * An outline of how the North of England is set out to lead a nature-positive transition. * A call to action for stakeholders in the North of England to create the first nature positive regional economy. | Nature North is a cross-sector and pan regional partnership. It is a collaboration between organisations in England and is comprised of a partnership board and advisory group.  Partnership Board: National Parks UK, National Landscapes Association, Woodland Trust, The Wildlife Trusts, RSPB, National Trust, The Rivers Trust, Environment Agency, Natural England, National Lottery Heritage Fund, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation  Advisory Group: Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Groundwork, Historic England, N8, The Natural Curriculum Hub at Liverpool John Moores University, Nestle, National Farmers Union, NP11, Transport for the North, United Utilities | Ongoing | A strategic plan launch was held in February 2025.  For more information, please visit:  [Investing in Nature for the North – A Strategic Plan for a Nature Positive Regional Economy](https://www.naturenorth.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Nature-North-Investing-In-Nature-For-The-North.pdf) | PM  EP  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **North West Coastal Forum**  A multi-sector charity that promotes and advances, for the public benefit, the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in the coastal areas of North West England, including those under other national jurisdictions, and education in sustainable development.  The NWCF works with organisations and initiatives across the region as funding permits to progress better and more sustainable coastal management and to help organisations and people working on coastal issues to connect. As well as having representatives from organisations and projects on the NWCF Expert Advisory Committee the project officer sits on many external groups to facilitate 2-way communication of key issues, including Turning Tides Partnership and the North West & North Wales Coastal Group.  The NWCF also provides linkage to national and international initiatives through its involvement on the Coastal Partnerships Network Committee and the Irish Sea Maritime Forum Steering Group. | The Expert Advisory Committee includes: University of Liverpool, NW IFCA, Solway Firth Partnership, Mersey Rivers Trust, Warrington Council, Morecambe Bay Partnership, Wirral Council, Natural England, Our Future Coast, Peel Ports Group, Historic England, Environment Agency, Cumbria Wildlife Trust/North West Wildlife Trusts, Liverpool John Moores University, National Oceanography Centre, Lune & Wyre Fisheries Association and Marine Management Organisation (observer) | Ongoing | The NWCF registered as a charity in February 2024 and appointed a North West Coastal Coordinator in January 2025. The Forum is now a partnership that comprises of a Board of Trustees and an Expert Advisory Committee that steers the direction of work of the Forum. The NWCF held the ‘Coastal Habitat Restoration and Creation in North West England 2025’ Conference on the 6th of March as part of a 3Cs funded project.  Current work includes:   * Delivering a regional event on Coastal Habitat Restoration and Creation * Creating a What’s Happening Report that showcases the ongoing plans/strategies and projects in the North West * Hosting a Natural Capital Webpage * Hosting a Regional Coastal Data Hub that stores links to relevant data sets in the North West region * A central role in the development of North West Marine Ecosystems * Keeping the website up to date with relevant coastal news and circulating information on behalf of partner organisations as needed   .  Find out more about the North West Coastal Forum here: [North West Coastal Forum](https://www.nwcoastalforum.org.uk/) | PM  EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Turing Tides Partnership and the LOVEmyBEACH campaign**  Turning Tides is a cross-agency strategic regional partnership of organisations working together in North West England to improve the quality of bathing waters. The key objectives are to:   * Inspire and change perceptions and values of key decision makers, the media, politicians, the private sector and the wider community * Collaboratively strive to raise the quality of North West bathing waters * Identify and raise awareness of funding streams for North West bathing water improvements   . | Turning Tides Partnership: Blackpool Council (Chair), Environment Agency, Keep Britain Tidy, British Destinations, Allerdale Council, Barrow Council, Sefton Council, Wyre Council, United Utilities, Morecambe Bay Partnership, North West Coastal Forum | Established 2012, ongoing | Turning Tides Partnership: 10 year review recently completed.  Current efforts are being placed on gathering data and building understanding on the causes of poor water quality.  A water quality toolkit has been produced by Ribble Rivers Trust for the Turning Tides Collaborative.  The toolkit includes an online storymap that consolidates data sources and evidence. It has been designed for use by partnerships and collaborative groups to analyse the conditions in specific areas. In particular, groups are encouraged to analyse water bodies that affect certain bathing waters. Data from the toolkit usage will be used to guide future actions.  Please find a youtube video outlining the overview of the toolkit here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jqV1KlnL5YE>  Please find the toolkit here: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/04116b8a31c84306a444d373b6c7459f>  For more information on LOVEmyBeach campaign see: <https://lovemybeach.org/resources/> | EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **North West Regional Coastal Monitoring programme**  This monitoring programme stretches from the Wirral to the Scottish border and is one of six regional monitoring programmes that forms a national network across England.  The programme facilitates the systematic collection of coastal monitoring data to inform sustainable decision-making on the coast and is funded by Defra through the Environment Agency.  Data is gathered and managed by Sefton Council and made publicly available through the [Channel Coast website](https://www.channelcoast.org/). Data collected includes:   * Topographic beach profiles * Dune toe surveys * Cliff edge surveys * Laser scans * Bathymetry * Wave and tidal data * Coastal defence inspections * Aerial photography * Light Detection and Ranging LiDAR | Sefton Council (lead), North West & North Wales Coastal Group members (including Environment Agency), other coast protection authorities | Ongoing since 2006 | Since 2006 a wide range of data has been collected to inform understanding of coastal processes and provide data and evidence for a range of coastal defence schemes.  All of the data is freely available on the Channel Coast website at: <https://coastalmonitoring.org/northwest/> | PM  EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Our Future Coast**  The North West & North Wales Coastal Group, through Wyre Council, has been successful in securing £6.2m funding for the Ecological Community Owned Coastal Buffer Strips project through the Environment Agency’s Innovative Resilience Funding initiative. The project will pilot innovative approaches to natural coastal defences such as sand dunes and saltmarsh and explore their wider benefits. Pilot activities will take place at a range of locations along the North West coast from Cumbria to the Wirral. 14 sites will be tested along the NW coast.  Development of new monitoring techniques to measure changing resilience of natural assets will take place as part of the project, this section of work is led by NOC. | Wyre Council (lead), Coastal Protection Authorities: Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness Lancaster, Wyre, Blackpool, Fylde, West Lancs, Sefton and Wirral; Morecambe Bay Partnership, Wyre Rivers Trust, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Lune Rivers Trust, National Oceanography Centre, Lancaster University, Natural England, Marine Management Organisation, Historic England, National Trust, Sefton Coast Partnership, NW Coastal Forum, Eden project, RSPB, 7 FLAGs and numerous landowners other stakeholders and community forums | 2021 - 2027 | Additional sites added in 2025 to complement the existing 15: Seagrass planting with Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Sunderland Point led by Morecambe Bay Partnership, Cocker channel led by Natural England with Lancs Wildlife Trust, Skippool boat berthing and salt marsh improvements  Adaptations pathway research study commissioned with Lancaster University. Adaptation pathway workshops and reports in progress. Farmers co-operative at Pilling. Co-designed, community built and installed natural sediment traps collecting sediment at Hest Bank and Bolton-Le-Sands.  Coast Sense Rapidar monitoring at a selection of appropriate sites. Mini buoy monitoring and BESE grid installations. Collaboration with Nature North's Coastal and Estuaries co-ordinating group. Hello Lampost engagement signs up at a selection of sites. Climate readiness surveys completed at Fylde, Formby and in progress at Fleetwood.  Two farm advisors in post, at Lune Rivers Trust and Wyre Rivers Trust. Fixed Point photography stands at sites are in process of being installed  "Our Future Coast - What Does the Coastline of Morecambe Bay Mean to You?" - community art exhibition in Lancaster maritime Museum March-July 2025  For more information, follow: [Our Future Coast](https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/699d09ddcebf47028608aafcd87612cc) | EP  CC  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **North West River Basin District: Catchment flood management plans (CFMPs)**  These are policy-level documents. These CFMPs aim to plan for effective ways of managing flood risks, taking into accounts flooding from all types of inland flooding. This includes rivers, groundwater, surface water and tidal flooding. CFMPs also cover climate change impacts, uses and management of land, and which areas could be fitting for sustainable development.  The CFMPs are grouped by river basin district.  The Catchment Plans in the North West River Basin District include:  [**Alt Crossens: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alt-crossens-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Derwent: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/derwent-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Douglas: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/douglas-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Irwell: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/irwell-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Kent and Leven: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/kent-and-leven-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Lune: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lune-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Mersey Estuary: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mersey-estuary-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Ribble: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ribble-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**South west Lakes: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/south-west-lakes-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Upper Mersey: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/upper-mersey-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Weaver Gowy: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/weaver-gowy-catchment-flood-management-plan)  [**Wyre: Catchment flood management plan**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wyre-catchment-flood-management-plan) | Environment Agency | Ongoing | CFMPs should be regularly consulted when planning to manage flood risk.  For more information, please visit: [Catchment flood management plans – GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/catchment-flood-management-plans#north-west-river-basin-district) | PM  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **United Utilities: Investment Plan**  This investment plan outlines how United Utilities will deliver £13 billion in improvements and projects between 2025 and 2030. | United Utilities | 2025 – 2030 | Find out more here: [Creating a stronger, greener and healthier North West | United Utilities – Business Services](https://www.unitedutilities.com/Business-services/creating-a-stronger-greener-and-healthier-north-west/) | PM  EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **United Utilities: Business Plan**  This business plan outlines how United Utilities aim to achieve a stronger, greener and healthier North West. | United Utilities | 2025 – 2030 | Find out more here: [Our Future Plans](https://www.unitedutilities.com/corporate/about-us/our-future-plans/) | PM  EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **King Charles III England Coast Path**  This is a walking route that promotes access. The aim is that this path will follow the entire coast of England. Upon completion, this would be the longest managed coastal walking route in the world.  The coastal path aims to promote open access to the coast and includes areas of land outside of the coast path, forming the Coastal Margin.  The King Charles III England Coast Path links up with other coastal paths, including:   * Hadrians Wall National Trail * Offa’s Dyke Path National Trial via the Wales Coast Path | National Trails | Ongoing | In November 2023, two parts of the path opened in Northern Cumbria.  Awaiting: Awaiting news on two subsections – Gretna to Allonby and Silecroft to Silverdale.  As of January 2025, the following paths are open:   * Gretna to Kirkandrews-on-Eden * Brownrigg to Allonby * Allonby to Whitehaven * Whitehaven to Silecroft * Silecroft to Green Road * Walney Island * Tarleton Lock near Preston to Pier Head Ferry Terminal, Liverpool * Birkenhead to the Welsh Border   Find out more about the King Charles III England Coast Path here: [King Charles III England Coast Path - North West - National Trails](https://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/en_GB/trails/england-coast-path-north-west/) | EP  CC  RV  RA |

## Dee Estuary & Cross Border with Wales

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Coastal water quality modelling for the Welsh coast**  Welsh Water (Dŵr Cymru/Welsh Water or DCWW) has refreshed their coastal modelling suite for the whole Welsh Coastlineat a cost of some £9m. **This includes that part of the South Eastern Irish Sea around the Dee** Estuary. Welsh Water uses the models to understand water quality issues around the coast. Access to the model(s) is available to academics and other parties upon request (run at their own cost). DCWW hopes the model might be of use in delivering several of the above outcomes. | **DCWW** | n/a | Completed, ongoing use. | PM  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **LIFE Dee River**  This sets out to improve the aquatic habitat of the river which will of course improve in turn the estuary and associated aquatic biodiversity. It has a value in excess of £6m.  The project focuses on conservation work, fish migration, river restoration, land management and community engagement. | Natural Resources Wales (lead), Welsh Government, Dŵr Cymru/Welsh Water (funding partners) | Several years. | In 2024, LIFE Dee River assisted with hosting the River Restoration Conference.  Some of the outcomes to date include restoration work on natural riverine processes and morphology, movement towards more favourable conservation status of habitats and species. As well as this, the project has worked on reducing pollution of the river and there has been visible improvement of Salmon and other fish populations.  Find out more about the LIFE Dee River project here:  [Natural Resources Wales / LIFE Dee River](https://naturalresources.wales/LIFEDeeRiver?lang=en) | PM  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Our Dee Estuary project**  A £900k sense of place initiative designed to inspire coastal communities on the Wirral and in Flintshire and Denbighshire about the nature heritage of the Dee Estuary. A cross border project working on both the English and Welsh sides of the estuary engaging communities across the estuary by reconnecting them to a common estuarine heritage. | Cheshire Wildlife Trust (lead), Local Authorities, statutory agencies, NGOs, local groups | 2021-2025 | Project is set to finish in March 2025.  Natural England is working with the Our Dee Estuary project with the aim of addressing recreational disturbance through improving public engagement.  The project has 3 main workstreams:  Love My Estuary – The communication stream which focuses on promotion of the esturay and encouraging behaviour change  Coastlives –This workstream focuses on volunteering, training and learning. Coastlives promotes stewardship based around the estuary.  One Estuary - This workstream focuses on legacy. The aim is to maintain the long-term, unified approach to estuary management.  Find out more about Our Dee Estuary here: [Our Dee Estuary | Caru Aber Dyfrdwy | Cheshire Wildlife Trust](https://www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/ourdeeestuary)  [Home - Dee Estuary](https://ourdeeestuary.co.uk/) | RA  HQ  PM  CC  RV |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Tidal Dee Catchment Partnership Action Plan**  The Tidal Dee Catchment Partnership has updated the Action Plan for the Tidal Dee catchment area.  There are a wide range of initiatives, from the overarching Our Dee Estuary £900k project (see separate entry above), to smaller projects such as the Dee Dairy £130k project, working with dairy farmers across the Dee Catchment to reduce agricultural pollution through advice and implementing interventions. | Cheshire Wildlife Trust (host organisation), Local Authorities, statutory agencies including Natural England and Natural Resources Wales, NGOs, local groups | 2015 onwards | The latest (March 2022) Action Plan is available to download from: <https://catchmentbasedapproach.org/get-involved/tidal-dee/> | | PM  EP  HQ  RV  RA |

## Cheshire

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Cheshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy**  This LNRS is a statutory policy document that aims to address biodiversity loss by mapping valuable habitats, setting priorities for reversing decline, and identifying opportunities for nature recovery. Cheshire West and Chester Council has been appointed as the responsible authority for this strategy. The LNRS sets out priorities and actions for natures recovery over the next 5-10 years. to. Public consultations and expert input guide the development of this strategy, with ongoing updates planned. Note: this is not a delivery plan.  Similar Local Nature Recovery Strategies have been prepared across England. See separate entries for Cumbria LNRS, Liverpool City Region LNRS, Lancashire LNRS | Cheshire West and Chester Council (lead), Cheshire East Council, Warrington Borough Council and Peak District National Park Authority. | Preparation began in 2023, A public consultation is now out – 2025. | A public consultation is currently live until 31st of March, 2025.  For more information, please visit: [Cheshire and Warrington Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation | Participate Now](https://participatenow.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/cheshire-and-warrington-local-nature-recovery-strategy-consultation) | PM  EP  HQ  RA |

## Merseyside

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Liverpool City Region and West Lancashire Joint Recreation Mitigation Strategy**  Its purpose is to mitigate the damage done to the coastline by recreational use. It will seek some sort of tariff on new residential development to pay for the mitigation work and possibly staff. | **Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service** (lead) are coordinating the work. and West Lancashire Borough Council is working with the six Liverpool City Region authorities. Footprint Ecology are doing the consultancy work. | Study to finish by 2023; to be implemented via planning policies – Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). | The study is well underway; individual Councils are seeking to establish the legal basis for the Supplementary Planning Document / provide a 'policy hook' in local authorities’ respective Local Plans that the SPD can hang off.  Interim policies have been developed for Recreational Disturbance in Liverpool and Halton. This is related to housing developments over a certain size requiring input to mitigation such as wardening. Further evidence gathering is currently being undertaken.  For more information on the Recreation Mitigation Strategy, please contact [Merseyside](mailto:alan.jemmett@eas.sefton.gov.uk) Environmental Advisory Service: <http://www.meas.org.uk/> | RV  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Mersey Ports Master Plan**  The plan seeks to assist in coordination of medium term planning. The main purposes of this plan are to:   * Set out Ports medium to long term strategic plan * Enable clarification for regional and local planning bodies, as well as transport providers on Port’s plan in order to assist in development of respective strategies * Offer a vision for expected development for port users, employees and local communities | Peel Ports | 20 years from 2011, 2031 | Continuously consulted.  To find out more about the Mersey Ports Master Plan, follow this link: [Mersey Ports Master Plan Executive Summary](https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/2610/em8-exec-summ-june11.pdf) | PM  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Liverpool City Region Local Nature Recovery Strategy**  This LNRS aims to address biodiversity loss by mapping valuable habitats, setting priorities for reversing decline, and identifying opportunities for nature recovery. Led by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and supported by local and national experts, the strategy focuses on restoring ecosystems and enhancing green spaces. The LNRS seeks to improve air and water quality, contribute to climate resilience, and support Net Zero goals. Public consultations and expert input guide the development of this strategy, with ongoing updates planned. Note: this is not a delivery plan.  Similar Local Nature Recovery Strategies have been prepared across England. See separate entries for Cumbria LNRS, Cheshire and Lancashire LNRS | Defra has appointed Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (lead) to produce the Liverpool LNRS. Local organisations involved include: Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service, Liverpool John Moores University, environmental record centres, and local Authorities as Supporting Authorities to the LNRS.  Organisations in advisory roles include: Natural England, the Forestry Commission and the Environment Agency, and the Liverpool City Region Local Nature Partnership. | Preparation began in 2023, A public consultation is now out – 2025 | A public consultation is currently live until April 6, 2025.  For more information, please visit: [Local Nature Recovery Strategy | Liverpool City Region Combined Authority](https://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/local-nature-recovery-strategy) | PM  EP  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Sefton Coast Plan: Visioning Position Statement 2021**  This outlines a plan for managing the Sefton Coast, through balancing its natural environment, tourism, and economic needs. The coast, home to rare species and protected areas, is crucial for biodiversity and flood defence. The plan aims to manage visitor pressure, protect sensitive areas, and promote sustainable tourism and recreation. It includes strategies for adapting to climate change, with a focus on preserving natural habitats while encouraging responsible public engagement. The Visioning Position Statement also discusses the development of sub-strategies and masterplans for key areas like Crosby and Southport to integrate nature conservation with recreational and economic activities. |  | Adopted in 2017, Runs to 2030 | For more information, please visit: [Sefton Coast Plan Visioning Position Statement 2021](https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4657/coast-position-statement-21.pdf) | PM  EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Sefton Coast Local Nature Conservation Strategy**  This is a supplementary planning document that highlights the priorities for managing the coast and identifies the wider benefits for Sefton’s coast. It outlines the benefits for both community and economic growth. | Led by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Services (Commissioned by Liverpool City Region Combined Authority) | Nature Conservation Strategies set to be produced 2025 | For more information, please visit:  [Nature Conservation Strategy](https://www.sefton.gov.uk/around-sefton/coast-and-countryside/how-we-manage-our-coastline/partnership-work/nature-conservation-strategy/) | PM  EP  CC  RA |

## Lancashire

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Lancashire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2021 – 2027**  Lancashire's Lead Local Flood Authorities have produced a joint strategy which sets out:   * The context for how flood risk is managed * local flood risks, challenges and opportunities * a vision for how these risks and challenges can be addressed, and how to make the most of opportunities * a business plan, setting out how and when measures will be implemented to achieve this * how the delivery of the strategy will be monitored and reviewed | Blackburn-with-Darwen Council, Blackpool Council and Lancashire County Council (Lancashire’s Lead Local Flood Authorities) | 2021-27 | Cabinet approvals were secured from Lancashire County Council (4 November 2021), Blackpool Council (11 October 2021) and Blackburn-with-Darwen Council (8 November 2021) through October and November 2021, with the last approval being granted on 8 November 2021  For more information see <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/strategies-policies-plans/environmental/lancashire-and-blackpool-flood-risk-management-strategy/> . | PM  EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **St Annes Seawall Coast Protection Scheme** **and St Annes Town Centre and Island Masterplan**  BDP Consultants are currently developing a Masterplan for the Town Centre and Island Site behind St Annes Sea Wall. The Masterplan will guide the sustainable development of St Anne’s town centre and the Island site and is aimed at delivering the council’s vision for St Anne’s as a high-quality and sustainable coastal resort.  The existing sea wall is 90 years old and needs replacing to secure protection to the area behind, which will be covered by the new masterplan. The new sea wall will attract further investment and act as a catalyst for the redevelopment of the Island site. | Fylde Council (lead), Blackpool Council, Wyre Council, Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, BDP Consultants.  25 businesses and the RNLI are engaged in the St Annes Sea Wall replacement project. | Island Masterplan – summer 2022  St Annes Seawall - due to start works on site 2023 | Ongoing dune enhancement project – very successful. £1m funding received from the Environment Agency for dune enhancement work over the next 5 years  St Annes Sea wall £12.1m Environment Agency funding secured, but behind programme due to challenging stakeholder engagement.  Town Centre and Island Masterplan: consultation took place in March 2022.  For more information on the Masterplan see: <https://new.fylde.gov.uk/stannesregen/>  For more information on St Annes Sea Wall see: <https://www.discoverfylde.co.uk/stannesseawall/>  For more information on the dune enhancement project see <https://new.fylde.gov.uk/million-pound-boost-to-fylde-coast-sand-dunes/> | EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Fylde Coast Sand Dune Management Plan**  This long-standing project is intended to improve the sand dune habitat along the Fylde Coast to increase the standard of erosion and flood protection to nearby properties as well as maintaining the improvement of designated sand dune habitat and providing wildlife benefits - the dunes are home to several internationally significant plants, rare invertebrates, and Priority Species birds. Sand lizards, the UK’s rarest lizard, have been successfully reintroduced since 2018 now that habitat conditions are deemed favourable. | Blackpool Council (lead), Fylde Council, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, community volunteers | Ongoing | Ongoing dune enhancement project currently providing protection for 493 properties from coastal erosion and 8 from flooding. A further £1m funding has now been received from the Environment Agency for dune enhancement work over the next 5 years which should provide protection for a further 400 homes.  For more information on the dune enhancement project see [https://new.fylde.gov.uk/million-pound-boost-to-fylde-coast-sand-dunes](https://new.fylde.gov.uk/million-pound-boost-to-fylde-coast-sand-dunes/) and <https://www.lancswt.org.uk/our-work/projects/fylde-sand-dunes>  [Fylde Sand Dunes Management Action Plan - DocsLib](https://docslib.org/doc/12153819/fylde-sand-dunes-management-action-plan) | PM  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Wyre Beach Management Scheme** Wyre Council has secured over £40 million in government funding schemes to significantly reduce the risk of coastal erosion and flooding to over 11,000 properties and critical infrastructure. This will be achieved by constructing both rock armour groynes to help build a high stable beach. This will in turn reduce wave height and energy and the risk of overtopping and damage to the sea defences. The rock armour toe protection will also protect the existing structures from being undermined if, and when beach levels drop. | Wyre Council (lead), Environment Agency (funder) | 4 years from 2022 | Consultation with local residents, visitors and key stakeholders has contributed to the final design which will start on site in 2022 and will be completed over a four-year period.  For more information see  <https://www.wyre.gov.uk/coastal-defence/beach-management-scheme-2020/1> | EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Wyre Estuary Group**  This is a sub-group of Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership, focussing on estuarine issues, delivery and development of projects. Development of **Wyre Estuary landscape plan** proposed as part of future work. | Wyre Rivers Trust (lead), Wyre Council, Environment Agency, Natural England, United Utilities, RSPB, LERN, Fylde Bird Club, NPL Estates, Catchment Sensitive Farming, Royal Society of Biology, NWIFCA, Keep Britain Tidy, SEALIFE Centre, Blackpool Council, Blackpool and The Fylde College. | Ongoing | The Estuary Group has met since 2015 and has helped to facilitate, develop and deliver a wide range of projects. The group went into something of an abeyance during the COVID-19 pandemic but is now re-formed. | PM  EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Wyre Estuary BioBlitz**  The delivery of an estuary wide BioBlitz every three years to help maintain and create a baseline dataset for the estuary which covers as wider range of species as possible. The event also engages with local communities, schools and a wide range of other organisations based on or working on the estuary. | Wyre Rivers Trust, Wyre Council, Royal Society of Biology (3 joint leads), Fylde Bird Club, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, NPL Estates, LERN, MCS, local commercial fishers and a wide range of amateur and professional naturalists. | Triennially | BioBlitzes have taken place in 2015, 2018, 2021 and 2024. Each event has recorded more species than the last and has been more successful than the last. The events are arguably among the largest environmental data gathering events taking place in Lancashire engaging well over 1000 people and allowing the general public to take part in the monitoring of species and habitats within the Wyre Estuary. | PM  EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Wyre Estuary Gateway Project**  Wyre Estuary Restoration projects progress over winter  Construction has commenced to restore the 2.5km of pathway between Wyre Estuary Country Park, Stanah and Skippool Picnic Area and car park.  Phase 1 – improving public access to nature. The work will aim to restore and improve sections of the bridleway between Skippool and Stanah within the Wyre Estuary Country Park.  Phase 2 – This phase is delivered by Our Future Coast (see separate entry). .The aim is to restore Stanah saltmarsh via managing vegetation and ground works. The work is being done to alleviate flood risk, increase biodiversity and provide coastal resilience. | Wyre Council, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Wyre Rivers Trust and Our Future Coast | Ongoing | Latest update is that work has commenced to restore bridleway as of December 2024.  Find out more here:  [Wyre Estuary Restoration projects progress over winter – Wyre Council](https://www.wyre.gov.uk/news/article/498/wyre-estuary-restoration-projects-progress-over-winter) | PM  EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery Project**  This project has been awarded funding through the Defra Landscape Recovery Programme. | Wyre Rivers Trust and its partners | Ongoing | Find out more here: [Landscape Recovery: sharing the successful second round projects – Farming](https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/11/29/round-two-projects/) | PM  EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Calder and Colne Landscape Links (CCaLL)**  This is a landscape recovery project with the aim of restoring moorlands, planting trees and creating biodiverse habitats.  This project has been awarded £750,000 through the Defra Landscape Recovery Programme and £100,000 from the Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. | Kirklees, Calderdale Council, the Calder and Colne Rivers Trust, Environmental Projects in Kirklees (EPIKs) and Moors for the Future Partnership, with support from the Environment Agency | Aiming to have net zero carbon emissions by 2038 | This project is in its initial phase – producing plans that aim to build climate resilience. The partners are creating plans that include measures to reduce risk of moorland fires, provide improved habitat for wildlife – to ultimately offer natural climate risk mitigation and improve drinking water quality,  Find out more here:  [Restoring landscapes from towns to tops - Kirklees Together](https://kirkleestogether.co.uk/2024/05/20/restoring-landscapes-from-towns-to-tops/)  [Landscape Recovery: sharing the successful second round projects – Farming](https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/11/29/round-two-projects/) | PM  EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **West Pennines More Nature Partnership (WPMNP)**  This partnership is delivering the West Pennine Moors Landscape Recovery Scheme.  The aim is to create a thriving landscape through creating opportunities for people to get directly involved. The partnership focuses on collaboration to match sustainable agriculture and thriving wildlife. A key part of this is to Improve management of catchment to improve water quality. | West Pennines More Nature Partnership (WPMNP)  Working with: landowners, farm tenants, and local communities | Ongoing | Find out more here: [West Pennine Moors | The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire Manchester and North Merseyside](https://www.lancswt.org.uk/west-pennine-moors)  [Landscape Recovery: sharing the successful second round projects – Farming](https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/11/29/round-two-projects/) | PM  EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy**  The LNRSs are locally led collaborative strategies. Their purpose is to drive nature’s recovery to enable wider environmental benefits. Each local nature recovery strategy will:   * agree priorities for nature’s recovery * map the most valuable existing areas for nature * map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals   Similar Local Nature Recovery Strategies have been prepared across England. See separate entries for Cumbria LNRS, Cheshire LNRS and Liverpool City Region LNRS | Local Authorities: Blackpool unitary, Blackburn with Darwen unitary, Burnley district, Chorley district, Fylde district, Hyndburn district, Lancaster district, Natural England, Pendle district, Preston district, Ribble Valley district, Rossendale district, South Ribble district, West Lancashire district, Wyre district, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority  Key partners and stakeholders: Natural England, the Forestry Commission, the Environment Agency and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), in addition to environmental Non-Governmental Organisations (eNGOs) for example the Wildlife Trusts, Rivers Trusts and National Trust. | Ongoing | A story map has been produced to introduce and explain the Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy.  A public consultation is set to be released in the first quarter of 2025.  Find out more here: [Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Lancashire County Council](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/strategies-policies-plans/environmental/local-nature-recovery-strategy/) | PM  EP  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Wyre Rivers Trust and Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership Integrated Plan**  The aim of the Catchment partnership is to improve the river to a “good” standard under the Water Frameworks Directive (WFD) by 2027. As of 2019, 3 waterbodies in the catchment were of “good” status, 8 bodies were at “moderate” status and 3 waterbodies were rated as “poor”. The partnership will collaborate to improve water quality in this catchment. | Environment Agency, United Utilities, Grosvenor Estates, Blackpool and Fylde College, Wyre Council, The Friends of Garstang Walking Festival, Garstang Millennium Green Trust, Lancaster University, The Wyresdale Anglers and The Lune and Wyre Fisheries Association, Churchtown Flood Action Group, The Forest of Bowland AONB | 2019 - 2027 | Find out more about the Catchment Partnership and the work of the Wyre River Trust here: [Catchment Partnership | Wyre Rivers Trust](https://wyreriverstrust.org/catchment-partnership)  [Wyre Rivers Trust & Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership Integrated - DocsLib](https://docslib.org/doc/8527979/wyre-rivers-trust-wyre-waters-catchment-partnership-integrated) | PM  EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Fylde Council Coastal Strategy 2015 – 2032**  The Fylde Council Vision is “To create a unique, high quality visitor destination for residents and visitors, which is based on the conservation and enhancement of the natural landscape and heritage assets of the coastal area of the Borough of Fylde”  The purpose of this strategy is to set out a 16-year vision for the Fylde Coastline. This focuses on the 18km coastline from Starr Gate to Savick Brook. The strategy considers already existing strategies and policies on:   * green infrastructure * coastal protection * water quality * nature and landscape conservation * habitat improvement * heritage assets * place making * culture * leisure * sport and recreation * visitor economy * access and transportation * marketing * promotion and publicity and develop high level actions | Fylde Council members, stakeholders, organisations and Fylde community | 2015 - 2032 | See the Fylde Council Strategy here: [Coastal-Strategy-2015-FINAL.pdf](https://new.fylde.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Coastal-Strategy-2015-FINAL.pdf) | PM  EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Conservation Work at Formby**  Work will remove rubble and restore sand dunes at Formby. | National Trust | Starting 2025 | A planning application for the conservation work was approved in 2024. Project is beginning in 2025.  For more information, please see: [Projects at Formby │Liverpool | National Trust](https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/liverpool-lancashire/formby/the-future-of-formby-project#the-future-of-formby-project-timeline) | EP  HQ |

## Lancashire and Cumbria Cross Border

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **The Bay: a Blueprint for Recovery**  This is a programme aimed at combating isolation and loneliness in the coastal communities around Morecambe Bay from Barrow to Fleetwood.  The aim is to do this by delivering nature and wellbeing sessions run in small groups and community engagement events helping people to get into their natural surroundings to help themselves and nature’s recovery. | Cumbria Wildlife Trust, The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside, The Eden Project, and Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust.  It is supported by players of People’s Postcode Lottery as part of their ‘Postcode Recovery Fund’ | Work began in September 2021 and is funded for two years but is expected to continue well into the future. As of 2024, it has continued. | There are three delivery teams in place in Barrow, Morecambe and Fleetwood as well as a Communications team focusing on online engagement.  The Wildlife Trusts are running nature and wellbeing sessions which are populated through social prescription via the NHS and other care givers or self-referral and community events around The Bay. There is a social media presence reaching over 50000 people and a website is being launched aimed at helping the community access nature.  For more information see:   * <https://www.thebay.org.uk/> * <https://www.lancswt.org.uk/our-work/projects/bay-blueprint-recovery> * Facebook Instagram and twitter | CC  RV  RA |

## Cumbria

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Grey Seal Monitoring**  The North West Wildlife Trusts monitor the grey seal population at South Walney Nature Reserve with surveys carried out every two weeks between September and March. The number of seals has been increasing over the past few decades from just a few seals in the late 1980s to over 500 seals counted in February 2021. Since 2015, it has become a breeding colony and pups have been born on the reserve every year since. | North West Wildlife Trusts (lead), Sea Changers (provided funding for survey equipment) | Ongoing | Seal numbers have been increasing year on year and the seals provide an excellent avenue to discuss wider conservation issues with the general public as they are such a well-loved, charismatic species. They attract a lot of media attention.  As of March, 2025 a record number of seals have been recorded – 563!  Funding has been received from Sea Changers to purchase a drone and camera and rugged tablet to better monitor the seals.  There is also a sealcam where you can watch the seals, have a look here: [Seal cam | Cumbria Wildlife Trust](https://www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/wildlife/cams/seal-cam) | EP  CC  RV  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Morecambe Bay Seascape Restoration Project**  Cumbria Wildlife Trust hosts the Restoration Working Group, which has the intention of empowering local communities to restore vital habitats. The group considers coastal, intertidal and marine habitats. The aim of restoring these habitats whilst promoting local engagement is to support economic fisheries, improve water quality, contribute to coastal tourism locations, improve climate resilience. | Cumbria Wildlife Trust (lead), Lancaster University, Barrow Borough Council, Wyre Council, RSPB, North West Coastal Forum, MMO, Eden Project North, The Bay, Manchester Met University, Blue Marine Foundation, Natural England, Environment Agency, Holker Estates, Our Future Coast, Morecambe Bay Partnership, Cumbria University, Cumbria County Council, Arnside and Silverdale AONB | 2021 - 2027 | As of March 2025, this group has piloted seagrass restoration work in the Walney. This has resulted in socioeconomic and conservation accomplishments.  Read about their Seagrass Restoration work here: [Report - Seagrass Restoration Project - Marine Futures v1 PDF.pdf](https://www.livingseasnw.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-02/Report%20-%20Seagrass%20Restoration%20Project%20-%20Marine%20Futures%20v1%20PDF.pdf)  Please read their research reports at the bottom of this page: [Seagrass Restoration in the Walney Channel | Living Seas North West](https://www.livingseasnw.org.uk/seagrass-restoration) | EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Cumbria Coastal Strategy**  The Strategy provides an understanding of coastal flood and erosion risk for the whole of Cumbria in terms of property, habitat and critical infrastructure and where and when investment will be required over the 100 year Strategy period. | Cumbria County Council (lead). Coast Protection Authorities in Cumbria, Environment Agency, NW Regional Flood and Coastal Committee | Ongoing – 100 year plan | Now complete after a 2.5 year delivery programme to produce the Strategy. The Strategy Appraisal Report has been approved. Due to the habitat implications of the Strategy needed to be signed off by DEFRA which has now been done and formal approval given.  Early interventions from the Strategy have been included in the 20/21 and 21/22 refresh and into the next 6 year capital programme and will be led by Cumbria County Council (lead authority) for each of the Coast Protection Authorities as follows:  Morecambe Bay Erosion Study  Solway Firth Erosion Study  Silloth Groyne Replacement Appraisal  Seascale Coastal Erosion Protection  Harrington North Shore Coastal Erosion Protection  Copeland Borough Council (lead authority)   1. Seamills Coastal Erosion works - Rock armour and concrete revetment works to protect 6 properties in partnership with Network Rail works to protect railway infrastructure now complete. 2. Whitehaven Harbour Works 3. St Bees Coastal Erosion Protection – Initial Appraisal works now approved and ongoing   For more information see <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/ccs/>  [CCS Summary Report](https://cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/6640/17802/4427216131.pdf) | PM  EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Penrith to Kendal Arc Landscape Recovery Project**  This project covers 14,000 hectares in the eastern Lake District. It aims to improve the upland landscape as well as the tributaries of the River Eden and River Kent, and improve water quality and management.  Improving the uplands and the two rivers will be achieved by creating a mosaic of wildlife rich habitats to increase species variety and increase carbon capture. Water quality and management will be improved to create a resilient landscape to benefit both nature and community.  This project has been awarded funding through the Defra Landscape Recovery Programme. |  | Ongoing/Currently in development | For more information, please see:  [Landscape Recovery: sharing the successful second round projects – Farming](https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/11/29/round-two-projects/)  [Penrith to Kendal Arc Landscape Recovery Project - Becks to Bay](https://btob.scrt.co.uk/actions/penrith-to-kendal-arc-landscape-recovery-project)  [Dr Neil Hudson MP welcomes local successes in the £25 million Government Landscape Recovery Scheme, protecting the environment and food production | Dr Neil Hudson](https://www.neilhudson.org.uk/news/dr-neil-hudson-mp-welcomes-local-successes-ps25-million-government-landscape-recovery-scheme) | EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Resilient Glenderamackin**  The Glenderamackin project will aim to create and restore habitats over 9600 hectares. The habitats of focus are ponds, wetlands, rivers, floodplains, woodland, scrub and hedgerows. The aim is to restore, reconnect and create these habitats as well as improve soil health to boost nature recovery. Through building habitat resilience and in turn, improve their ability to store carbon, the project will aim to achieve net zero targets in the Lake District National Park.  This project has been awarded funding through the Defra Landscape Recovery Programme. |  | Ongoing/Currently in development | Learn more about the project here: [Dr Neil Hudson MP welcomes local successes in the £25 million Government Landscape Recovery Scheme, protecting the environment and food production | Dr Neil Hudson](https://www.neilhudson.org.uk/news/dr-neil-hudson-mp-welcomes-local-successes-ps25-million-government-landscape-recovery-scheme)  [Resilient Glenderamackin Landscape Recovery — West Cumbria Rivers Trust](https://www.westcumbriariverstrust.org/projects/glenderamackin)  Learn more about the funding here: [Landscape Recovery: sharing the successful second round projects – Farming](https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/11/29/round-two-projects/) | EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Upper Irthing PRISM (Peatland, Rivers, Invasives, rare Species & Meadows) Project**  The PRISM project covers 6000 hectares in the upper catchment of the River Irthing. The aim is to enhance, restore and connect hydrologically linked, wildlife-rich, priority habitats with their respective species. To conduct this work, new models of sustainable land management will be trialled. The purpose is to sustainably manage the land to restore and enhance watercourses, riparian corridor habitats and species. There will also be a focus on peatlands and strategic conservation of specialist species to enhance the transition and buffer zones of peatland and adjacent land.  The project is a landscape recovery project funded by the second round of Defras Landscape Recovery projects fund. | Forestry England (lead), Eden Rivers Trust, Natural England, Ministry of Defence, Northumberland Wildlife Trust and four private landowners |  | From Spring 2025 there will be volunteer opportunities with Eden Rivers Trust (in charge of creating a mink-free buffer) to help with biological surveys for Water vole, birds, butterflies and habitats. Find out more here: [» PRISM – landscape recovery in the Upper Irthing](https://edenriverstrust.org.uk/projects/habitat-improvement/prism-landscape-recovery-in-the-upper-irthing/)  Learn more about the project here: [Dr Neil Hudson MP welcomes local successes in the £25 million Government Landscape Recovery Scheme, protecting the environment and food production | Dr Neil Hudson](https://www.neilhudson.org.uk/news/dr-neil-hudson-mp-welcomes-local-successes-ps25-million-government-landscape-recovery-scheme)  Learn more about the funding here: [Landscape Recovery: sharing the successful second round projects – Farming](https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/11/29/round-two-projects/) | PM  EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Port of Workington Master Plan**  The master plan sets out the vision for the future of the Port of Workington. The focus is on expanding its role as a key logistics hub. It aims to increase its customer base, develop facilities for green industries, and support regional growth by creating skilled jobs, boosting imports and exports, and enhancing its logistics capabilities. The plan will help strengthen the local and regional economy. | Port of Workington | 2020-2045 | Learn more about the plan here: [Port-of-Workington-Master-Plan.pdf](https://portofworkington.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Port-of-Workington-Master-Plan.pdf) | PM  EP  CC |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy**  Cumbria was 1 of 5 areas to pilot drafting a local nature recovery strategy. This pilot was submitted to Defra in 2021.  The Cumbria LNRS is a collaborative strategy to respond and act on the current nature and biodiversity crises. Its purpose is to restore and connect habitats so that their respective species can thrive. The LNRS maps out the most valuable existing areas for nature, and proposals for creating or improving habitat. The strategy also agrees priorities for nature’s recovery and to reach wider environmental goals.  Similar Local Nature Recovery Strategies have been prepared across England. See separate entries for Lancashire LNRS, Cheshire LNRS and Liverpool City Region LNRS | Westmorland and Furness Council as the Responsible Authority, Cumberland Council,  Lake District National Park Authority, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Nature England, Cumbria Local Nature Partnership, alongside environmental organisations, landowners, community groups, and other stakeholders | Ongoing | Find out more: [Homepage | Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy](https://cumbrialnrs.org.uk/homepage-0) | PM  EP  HQ  RA |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Cumbria Wildlife Trust: Five-year strategy 2020 – 2025**  Cumbria Wildlife Trust are presenting their priorities for the next five years. The main aims are to:   1. Deliver nature-based solutions 2. Enhance the relevance and importance of local wildlife, to demonstrate their impact on people and communities. 3. Strategically approach and tackle the challenges facing wildlife in Cumbria. | Cumbria Wildlife Trust and partners | 2020 - 2025 | With this five-year strategy being in its final year, a new strategy is expected to be presented for 2025-2030.  To find out more about Cumbria Wildlife Trust’s Five-Year strategy 2020 – 2025, follow this link: [Cumbria-WT-2020-2025-Five-Year-Strategy-summary.pdf](https://www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-05/Cumbria-WT-2020-2025-Five-Year-Strategy-summary.pdf) | PM  EP  CC  RV  HQ  RA |

## Solway Firth and Cross Border with Scotland

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Solway Coast and Marine Project (SCAMP)**  The project focuses on further development of marine natural capital in the Solway. A major part of the project is sharing experiences across the coast and cross-border. Initial phases of the project include exploring how communities can benefit from a healthy and thriving coastal community. The first part of funding focuses on seagrass, saltmarsh and oyster restoration. The second part of the funding focuses on the development of a research centre. | Dumfries and Galloway Council (lead)/ Solway Firth Partnership / Crown Estate Scotland / South of Scotland Enterprise  Although this is a Scottish based project the aim is to also work cross-border with similar work (see Marine Natural Capital Development on the Cumbrian Solway project). | 10 years | The first phase of a FIRNS (The Facility for Investment Ready Nature in Scotland) has been completed. SCAMP engaged with ~1,000 citizens and a report which highlights the process and outcomes has been produced. Engagement included conversations, surveys and explorations.  For more information, please see: [Marine Natural Capital - Dumfries and Galloway - Solway Firth Partnership](https://www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk/environment/marine-natural-capital-dumfries-and-galloway/) | EP  CC  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Solway Coast Management Plan**  This is a statutory management plan, that the Solway National Landscapes work towards with their partners. They are guided by the JNCC.  This plan sets out the conservation measures and areas of enhancement for the Solway Coast between 2020 and 2025. The purpose of the plan is to be used by a variety of audience to refer to in order to find information for their respective purposes. As the Solway Coast is a National Landscape, the plan is written for people working in the area – including, organisations, individuals and communities – to play a role in implementing it. | Solway Coast National Landscape | 2020 - 2025 | With this five-year management plan being in its final year, a new management plan is expected to be presented for 2025-2030.  Find out more about the Solway Coast Management Plan here: [Management plan – Solway Coast National Landscape](https://www.solwaycoast-nl.org.uk/our-work/management-plan/) | PM  EP |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **Solway Carbon Project**  The Solway Coast Saltmarsh Carbon Stocks project aimed to quantify soil organic carbon (SOC) stocks across saltmarshes in the Cumbrian Solway Firth. Activities included field sampling, lab analysis, stakeholder engagement, production of SOC maps and infographics, and landowner interviews to explore conservation views. | Solway Firth Partnership, Swansea University, Manchester Metropolitan University and University of Cumbria | July – September 2024 (fieldwork and initial analysis); final report including landowner feedback completed March 2025 | Soil samples collected and analysed from four marshes (Cardurnock, Campfield, Burgh, Rockcliffe); SOC maps and stakeholder interviews completed; Elemental Analysis data to be added as an addendum; final report delivered | EP  HQ |

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| **Summary of activity/policy/strategy:** | **Organisations involved** | **Timeframe** | **Progress** | **Strategic Outcomes addressed** |
| **CLEARCoasts Project**  The CLEARCoasts Project supports coastal restoration and resilience through community engagement, stakeholder collaboration, and evidence-based interventions on the Cumbrian Solway Firth. The project includes saltmarsh restoration pilots (e.g., matting trials), habitat monitoring, volunteer training, outreach, and coordination with landowners and conservation bodies. It aims to co-develop sustainable management strategies that balance ecological recovery with local priorities. | Solway Firth Partnership (lead), Swansea University, Cumbria Wildlife Trust | Ongoing | Community and landowner engagement underway; restoration trials underway (i.e. matting deployed at Campfield, Cardurnock, and Anthorn marshes); local workshops held; hydrodynamic sensor arrays (mini buoys) in situ; long-term/ongoing monitoring procedure in development; final reporting in development  For more information, please see: [Report-CLEARCoasts-Project-March-2023.pdf](https://www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Report-CLEARCoasts-Project-March-2023.pdf) | EP  CC  HQ |

1. Subject to future resourcing [↑](#footnote-ref-1)