Working With Water Slowing the flow and improving water quality



Sketch showing opportunity to create wet woodland and protect riparian strip from livestock at Sick Brook, holding more water in the landscape and reducing soil erosion and localised pollution © Nabil Abas

Natural flood management (NFM), water quality improvement and habitat and species conservation can go hand in hand. This project aims to demonstrate this in the field.

We have identified 13 important small sites with local farmers and landowners for habitat interventions which will address water quality and flood risk issues. We will increase connectivity and secure habitats, (including tackling non-native plant species), throughout the area. While addressing a broad range of habitats, there are specific targets around:

- Heathland and grassland mosaics
- Woodland planting
- Enhancing watercourses and wetland creation.

All habitat plans and interventions will reference the importance of the area for water quality and natural flood management; bogs, flushes, streams, reservoirs and rivers that flow through this landscape providing a network for nature.

In addition we have identified a location to establish a catchment 'laboratory' which will allow us to carry out designed and measurable procedures to gain quantitative information to support the importance of NFM.

Working With Water – slowing the flow and improving water quality

		Percentage
HLF Funds required: All salaries, overheads, full cost recovery for SRWT together with Monitoring and Evaluation budget, review of ecosystem services and web hosting.	£243,872	76%
Partnership / match funding £ secured	£50,000	15%
Volunteer contribution	£25,000	9%
In-kind contribution	£O	0%
Total	£318,872	100%

Sheffield Lakeland Landscape Partnership

Working With Water – slowing the flow and improving water quality



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Supporting Species



A water vole entering the conduit at Redmires. Photo Guy Badham The Sheffield Lakeland Landscape Partnership has a range of heritage and engagement projects across the landscape. Woven within these projects are opportunities to influence both our and other people's actions in such a way as to benefit wildlife and particular species. A small range of species have been chosen that offer:

- The opportunity to engage a wide audience and inform people regarding their influence on the landscape.
- Reactive species where we have benchmark data that we can monitor throughout the period of the LCAP to help determine successful habitat management.
- Charismatic indicator species where we can use scientifically sound modelling to both influence management decisions and raise awareness of wider environmental issues.

The species identified by the SLLP steering group as offering greatest opportunity are:

- 1. Bats (as a group of species)
- 2. Barn Owls
- 3. Osprey
- 4. Goshawk
- 5. Nightjar
- 6. Willow tit and flycatchers
- 7. Water voles

		Percentage
HLF Funds required: All salaries, overheads, full cost recovery for SRWT together with Monitoring and Evaluation budget, review of ecosystem services and web hosting.	£76.000	81%
Partnership / match funding £ secured	£O	0%
Volunteer contribution	£18,100	19%
In-kind contribution	£O	0%
Total	£94,100	100%

Supporting Species Combined budgets all species



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The Hidden History



Exploring Sheffield Lakeland's heritage through surveying and recording lesser known sites. The project will look to explore our hidden heritage, involving the community in sites of interest across the landscape partnership area and across time from pre-history to the 20th century. The Community Archaeology Officer will be engaged and line managed by Sheffield City Council, (SCC), Parks and Countryside Service, supported by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS). We will engage specialist archaeological contractors to work with the project officer on eight projects, covering eight sites:

- Nature Reserves
- Woodlands
- Lodge Moor POW Camp
- Prehistory of the moors
- Wadsley and Loxley Common

- Early industry of the Loxley Valley (Storrs Wood)
- Early metal working bloomery sites around Stocksbridge, and
- Dambuilders the story of the people who built the reservoirs.

The Hidden History

		Percentage
HLF Funds required: All salaries, overheads, full cost recovery for SRWT together with Monitoring and Evaluation budget, review of ecosystem services and web hosting.	£85,938	52%
Partnership / match funding £ secured	£60,000	36%
Volunteer contribution	£20,000	12%
In-kind contribution	£O	0%
Total	£165,938	100%



Heritage Highways



The Worrall path – pilot project. A hollow way, showing a compacted stone surface. The features shown here are typical of an old highway and are the type of thing that volunteers will be looking for when they survey routes. Photo credit: Melanie Fitzgerald

Volunteers will identify and research old highways that were once used by packhorses, tradesmen and travellers within the SLLP area. These routes represent an important part of the heritage of the area – they were important to the local economy in the days of packhorses and carriers and are equally important today as a leisure resource. Few of those using the old highways are aware of the history beneath their feet and some of the old ways are incorrectly recorded on the definitive map (DM). Project volunteers will research and tell the story of the old highways, in various ways, and make applications/negotiations to have them correctly recorded on the DM, when sufficient evidence is found, to preserve them for future generations.

Some repair/restoration work will be undertaken as part of the project and to more easily enable multi-use access.

The work needs to be done now as Section 53 of the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 contains provision for the extinguishment of pre-1949 rights that are not recorded on the DM by 1st January 2026. If not recorded, these public rights will be lost forever to a multiplicity of diverse user groups.

Heritage Highways			
		Percentage	
HLF Funds required: All salaries, overheads, full cost recovery for SRWT together with Monitoring and Evaluation budget, review of ecosystem services and web hosting.	£30,428	53%	
Partnership / match funding £ secured	£O	0%	
Volunteer contribution	£21,600	38%	
In-kind contribution	£5,250	9%	
Total	£57,278	100%	



Restoring the Lattice



Dry stone walls, important visual and historic features in our landscape, but also opportunities to engage people in teamwork, getting out into the countryside, learning (or appreciating) a new skill or just knowing you've made a difference.

Dry stone construction is best known in the context of stone walls, traditionally used for the boundaries of fields and churchyards, or as retaining walls for terracing, but dry stone sculptures, buildings, bridges, and other structures also exist.

The dry stone walls of the Sheffield Lakeland have been identified as significant features by our Landscape Character Assessment, including field walls, retaining walls and the distinctive water company walls. Our project aims to raise awareness of the importance of walls as landscape features and wildlife habitat through community and volunteering projects and to repair or rebuild a range of the most important walls in the landscape. We will undertake a range of walling protection and restoration projects taking in some of the most iconic walls in the area. Seventeen separate sites will include training and community engagement opportunities as well as creating a 'Walls, Water and Walks' project telling some of the story of these heritage features.

Restoring the lattice including Steel Valley Project and wall art elements

		Percentage
HLF Funds required: All salaries, overheads, full cost recovery for SRWT together with Monitoring and Evaluation budget, review of ecosystem services and web hosting.	£177,791	96%
Partnership / match funding £ secured	£2,275	1%
Volunteer contribution	£7,400	3%
In-kind contribution	£O	0%
Total	£187,416	100%

Restoring the Lattice **Steel Valley Project**



Two sites will benefit from the project and will include training and community engagement opportunities.

These projects are: Christ Church Community Café Church sculpture working with the Steel Valley Project and Loxley Valley Flood Art Wall, working with Stoneface Creative. There will be further community engagement through the design and delivery of the Walls, Water and Walks guided route.





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