

Examples of biodiversity conservation work within the three Welsh National Parks

Provided for the Sustainability Inquiry into biodiversity conservation in Wales, meeting Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup> 2010.

**SC(3)-23-10 p5**

**National Assembly for Wales Sustainability Committee**

**Biodiversity Inquiry**

**Remarks on behalf of the three Welsh NPAs**

We welcome the recognition that is paid to biodiversity conservation within the Welsh policy landscape (One Wales One Planet, WES, TANs, RDP etc).

We also welcome the nettle-grasping that the Ministers have made on the failure to meet the 2010 target. We trust that the consultation for the Living Wales NEF will elicit useful correspondence that the Assembly Government will take the trouble to heed and consider.

Since submitting our written response to the Inquiry we have become increasingly involved in the Living Wales consultation process and this is giving rise to some very good thought and debate. We hope that this useful process will be extended to the Welsh population as a whole, rather than just seeking a 'conversation with the initiated'.

We suggest that the short answer to the Committee's Inquiry into why Wales has failed is that like every other nation, too little is being done to conserve biodiversity. In Wales as in England, the trajectory of current measures is in the right direction but there isn't enough of it happening and there isn't the cross-sector political will to do more. Why sign international treaties if there's insufficient will, resources or re-think to live up to them?

Also, the truth about Britain's biodiversity is that humans have already taken the best bits of the countryside, pushing wildlife to the less productive margins. It is generally true and indeed obvious that the good bits that humans now occupy would once have been the good bits for most other creatures, with some notable exceptions. Now, the formerly rich

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lowlands and wetlands have been made so fragmented that our prized biodiversity is mainly surviving on shrunken and impoverished scraps. And paradoxically these are now our best bits. Yet the wider countryside is where biodiversity wants to be, wants to get back to and indeed must get back to if the work that started with the designated sites network is to be completed. A Living Wales will point up this inconvenient truth, which Wales mustn't shy away from.

If we are to take A Living Wales seriously, then this deserves serious, in-depth and sustained public discourse. The paradigm shift in attitudes, understanding, skills and focus that the NEF represents will not be achieved overnight; it will take a generation to come to maturity. The current consultation and its outcomes are only the beginning of the journey.

The Living Wales consultation is flushing out many of the answers that the Committee seeks. For example, whilst the supporting text for A Living Wales tends to lay too much of the 'blame' for failures at the feet of the designated sites and statutory agencies, we believe that through an honest appraisal of consultation responses it will become apparent that this is not where the fault lies. Any perceived failures of agencies and sites are symptomatic of a greater malaise.

We are concerned that despite the good words in various National Assembly policies and strategies, environmental conservation and particularly biodiversity conservation is not easier or more achievable now than it was a decade ago. It is as hard and as challenging as ever, with new public sector contradictions and conflicts of interest thrown up every year. Too much effort is wasted in fire-fighting these paradoxes, which amounts to poor use of public resources that are supposed to be allocated towards proactive biodiversity conservation and quality of life improvements.

At just the time when the National Assembly is saying that more should be done, resources appear to be heading away from biodiversity conservation. You cannot have your cake and eat it. The legislative and policy demands, as well as the threats to biodiversity and the size of the information and evidence base on biodiversity decline with or without climate change, are all larger than they were a decade ago. But it seems that the agencies and authorities charged with the upkeep of biodiversity must make do with the same, or reduced, spending power.

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Agencies and authorities are only a fraction of the biodiversity conservation picture anyway, but until A Living Wales permeates across all sectors at the highest level, they are the ‘only public sector show in town’. So, in the meantime, biodiversity conservation won’t improve until these organisations are enabled to improve their performance.

There are risks in making a wholesale switch to an ecosystem services argument for conserving biodiversity, including failure to build on the good work done to date and appealing to the “what’s in it for me” lowest common denominator. If handled poorly, this could lead to perverse outcomes and an even poorer public appreciation of the natural world. Also, society is based upon altruism, not “what’s in it for me” selfishness.

We emphasise a point made in our written submission, namely that Wales’s rivers and wetlands should be treated as national priorities alongside its uplands, coast and woodlands.

We hope that understanding the value and vulnerability of ecosystems, habitats and species will become synonymous with the good governance of Wales.

### **Some examples of biodiversity conservation work within Wales’ 3 National Parks**

#### **General notes:**

- **Numerous CCW National Nature Reserves in the three NPs**
- **National Trust Wales is also well represented and active within each of the three NPs**
- **Welsh Wildlife Trusts are also well represented and active within each of the three NPs**
- **RSPB Cymru is well represented and active in two of the NPs**
- **All three NPAs have been asked to develop the ecological footprinting methodology supported by the WLGA and WAG**
- **All three Welsh NPAs have adopted the ANPA Statement by the Ecologists of the National Parks of England, Scotland and Wales on biodiversity conservation and climate change**
- **Until 2010, NPAs were excluded by CCW from the grant fund made available to county and county borough councils**

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- **10% of all environmental employment in Wales occurs in NPs and the rate of employment in the environment sector within NPs is double that elsewhere, offering real scope for the Green Jobs Strategy in integrated land management**
- **All three NPAs sit on both the Board and Council of Natur (Welsh Institute of Countryside and Conservation Management) and all three have been on the Executive Committee of PONT (Welsh Grazing Animals Project) in the past (currently two are represented)**
- **All three NPAs hold service-level agreements with their local ecological record centres**
- **Between them, the three Welsh Parks support examples of all the habitats of principal importance to Wales**
- **Biodiversity highlights include greater and lesser horseshoe bats (Wales' largest populations), Barbastelle bat, coastal slopes, largest area of Wales' limestone pavement, raised and blanket bogs, lowland and upland hay meadows, seabird colonies, chough, red and black grouse, osprey, peregrine falcon, salmon, trout, otter, Wales' largest population of red deer, Wales' best examples of lower plant communities, waterfalls and caves, as well as a large share of Wales' SACs, SPAs and SSSIs**

The following table provides examples rather than a comprehensive list of all biodiversity conservation work within the three Welsh NPs

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<p><b>Summary of the RSPB reserves and/or projects within the Park (area of land, focal species)</b></p>	<p>No visible or physical presence whatsoever because no SPAs and no coastline in the BBNP.</p> <p>Previously ran a lapwing habitat management project across Wales, including the BBNP, until funding ceased. Now runs a lapwing project in HoV outside the Park.</p>	<p>Grassholm and Ramsey Islands, both in the SPA (choughs and gannets); PCNPA works closely with Ramsey Island warden on chough monitoring</p>	<p>6 RSPB reserves totalling about 374ha, five 5 of these are SAC (two also SPA), all supporting priority habitats and some priority species listed in the LBAP, including lesser horseshoe bat, wood warbler, pied flycatcher, redstart, intertidal habitats, oakwood, raised bog, blanket bog, lake and broadleaf woodland. RSPB received £16.2k of funding from SNPA’s Rhaglen Tir Eryri scheme for three of these reserves.</p> <p>Excellent local relationships between RSPB and SNPA staff. SNPA sits on RSPB’s LIFE project (blanket bog restoration) and have recently contributed £25k towards this to assist drawing down additional funding for habitat restoration.</p> <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rhaglen T’ E’, with RSPB on the stakeholder group, won an</li> </ul>

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			<p>Excellence Wales award in 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SNPA funds annual habitat restoration for yellowhammer, guided by RSPB</li> <li>• Rhaglen T' E' funded 40km of hedgerow planting/improvements</li> <li>• £30K + from Rhaglen T' E' and capital grants for breeding waders</li> <li>• £3.5k to RSPB's Hiraethog Lapwing Project</li> <li>• SNPA and RSPB persuaded Scottish Power to underground 2km of power cables affecting breeding waders on Hiraethog</li> <li>• SNPA has co-funded RSPB's autumn 2010 transects of twite (Wales' last remaining population)</li> <li>• Rhaglen T' E' S15 agreements for habitat management benefiting chough, red and black grouse and for over 1000ha of SAC/SPA management, in close co-operation with RSPB and CCW</li> <li>• Barn owl nest boxes funded</li> <li>• SNPA staff help to monitor these in their own time</li> <li>• SNPA staff undertake black</li> </ul>

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			grouse lek counts in their own time
<p><b>Summary of past biodiversity projects in the Park</b></p>	<p>43 biodiversity projects supported through the Authority’s Sustainable Development Fund, with a total grant award of £293,806, representing 12.6% of total spend up to the end of September 2010</p> <p>Numerous S39 agreements to prevent destruction of priority habitats. Several still running for woodland sites, others have been terminated in favour of Tir Gofal.</p> <p>Meithrin Mynydd LIFE Project 1995 to 1998, to achieve integrated land management on the open common of Mynydd Du SSSI. However, limited success since cessation of project. Meithrin Mynydd Advisory Group now established, meets twice per year.</p> <p>Garn Goch Tir Gofal agreement (commenced 2004), the first such agreement on common land in Wales</p> <p>Controlled burning management on</p>	<p>5 biodiversity-related projects have been supported though biodiv’ conservation was not the principal objective. We have paid out £72,703</p> <p>30 S39 mgmt agreements (£65k per year for past 25 years) to prevent destruction of priority habitats</p> <p>Many S39 agreement sites since designated within SACs, thanks to intervention by NPA; unlike NPAs, most county or borough councils have not used S39</p> <p>Conserving the Coastal Slopes Scheme (1999 to2002) – coastal corridor comprises bulk of the Park’s semi-natural habitats, many parts of which are nationally and internationally important, with cough, peregrine and seabird colonies. In partnership with NTW, project helped 50 farms reverse the decline caused by cessation of traditional cutting, burning and grazing (EAGGF £256k) through re-introduction of positive</p>	<p>56 biodiversity projects supported through the Authority’s Sustainable Development Fund, to a total of £375,818 to date.</p> <p>Rhaglen Tir Eryri booklet provides a summary of SNPA activity for biodiversity and Natura 2000 sites (SACS and SPAs)  <a href="http://www.ceasc.com/Images/Content/2375%20report.pdf">http://www.ceasc.com/Images/Content/2375%20report.pdf</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding and specialist support to LIFE+ Active Blanket Bog project to restore parts of Migneint SAC, 1050ha of blanket bog targeted for 62.5km of drainage grip blocking</li> <li>• Substantial areas of N2K sites defended from colonization by Rhododendron Ponticum undertaken on adjoining sites</li> <li>• 3km of invasive weeds removed from riparian corridor of Llugwy, site improvement and</li> </ul>

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	<p>open common land on Mynydd Du and Black Mountains SSSIs</p> <p>Bracken control (aerial spraying, knapsack spraying and rolling) on areas of common land</p> <p>Grant aid to establish and equip the Brecknock Butterfly and Moth Group and the Brecknock Reptile and Amphibian Group</p> <p>Regular grant aid to the Llangorse Ringing Group, one of the longest-established bird-ringing groups in Wales</p> <p>Participation in the initial National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme to test and improve methodology; annual repeat surveys ongoing</p> <p>Identification and designation of second-tier wildlife sites, supported by UDP policy (work is on-going)</p> <p>Gorse scrub clearance on one common to improve habitat structure and grazing</p>	<p>management. Led to improvements on maritime grassland and heathland and some filling of territorial gaps by cough.</p> <p>The Pembrokeshire Grazing Network was setup in 2000 and is now one of the longest running projects of its type in Wales, provides conservation grazing on around 2000 hectares of key LBAP habitats in the Park each year.</p> <p>20 years of monitoring of cough, shelduck and peregrine populations on the coast allowing us to assess trends in the breeding populations and responses to land use change and habitat management</p> <p>Re-introduction of traditional burning management on the coast and upland commons, improving habitat structure and quality on 4 major SACs and numerous SSSIs</p> <p>Woodland management on 250 hectares of SAC woodland using</p>	<p>safeguarding lower catchment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American mink trapping on 13,100ha of the Migneint (key upland water vole site in Wales)</li> <li>• Partnership work with local angling association and EA Wales to restore sections and improve water quality of the river Eden to suitable habitats for fresh water pearl muscle</li> <li>• Volunteer involvement to eradicate invasive weed species from the LLyn Tegid foreshore</li> <li>• Development of Strategy document for Montane Heath in conjunction with CCW and National Trust</li> <li>• Review of consents undertaken for Coedydd Derw Meirionnydd and Pen LLyn ar Sarnau SAC's</li> <li>• Outcome 21 database actions being closely reviewed with CCW area team to refine targets and work streams.</li> <li>• Funding partner in employment cost of Pen LLyn &amp; Sarnau Project Officer</li> </ul>



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	<p>Purchase of seed harvester, to benefit local wildlife trusts, National Trust Wales and Powys CC too; used annually to harvest wildflower seeds, which are donated free of charge</p> <p>One year contract to WBP providing officer support for maternity cover</p> <p>Bog restoration work at Waun Fignen Felen</p> <p>Commissioning and adopting of Wales' first supplementary planning guidance for biodiversity and geodiversity conservation (2005)</p> <p>Co-ordination and editorial of a joint three Parks, CCW and Pembrokeshire CC research project on best practice and practical experience of bat conservation within a fragmented landscape (2005)</p> <p>Partner in the development and establishment of Wales' first ecological records centre (BIS), the proof of concept for which now sees</p>	<p>specialist teams and equipment – conservation of western oak woodland, lichen communities, bats and a range of breeding bird species</p> <p>Woodland management on a further 300 hectares of privately owned woodland per annum facilitating conservation management for small woodland owners</p> <p>Kestrel nest box project – providing 70 nest boxes throughout the park on suitable habitat to address the issues affecting this species identified in the SAP</p> <p>2 PCNPA staff are Directors of the LRC for West Wales – special projects commissioned for species modelling (kestrel project) and connectivity mapping</p> <p>Establishment of the Pembrokeshire Timber Store, which stockpiles timber from sustainably managed Pembrokeshire woodlands and adds value by turning the timber into high</p>	

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	<p>four record centres covering all of Wales</p> <p>Brecon Beacons Limestone Pavement Survey 2007 to re-assess this resource, the largest in Wales, and to establish a better methodology for limestone pavement assessment in the UK</p> <p>Re-introduction of water vole by the EAW at Llangorse in 2009 and 2010</p> <p>Since 2000, river habitat restoration by the Wye and Usk Foundation on the River Usk tributaries</p> <p>2005 River Usk Giant Hogweed Project, led by EAW, co-financed and staffed by BBNPA, to clear this weed</p>	<p>quality products. The Senedd in Cardiff is constructed with Pembrokeshire timber</p>	
<p><b>Summary present biodiversity projects within the Park: cost, personnel, partners, outcomes</b></p>	<p>All three NPAs required to continue habitat restoration work on Natura 2000 sites, and to support the International Year of Biodiversity, in the Minister's Strategic Grant Letter</p> <p>Implementation of the Waterfalls Country Management Plan, incorporating the Coedydd a Mellte SAC, in partnership with CCW and</p>	<p>S39 agreements available for farmers with priority habitats unable or unwilling to enter whole farm agri-environment schemes.</p> <p>2002 onwards, moved from Conserving Coastal Slopes to Conserving the Park, using lessons learnt. Has moved from 50 sites covering 400ha to 220 sites covering</p>	<p>New raptor survey and potential for project work in Glaslyn Valley</p> <p>SNPA now sits on the Wales Bird Conservation Forum established by RSPB</p> <p>Buzz Eryri, honey bee project within SNPA, working with local bee</p>

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	<p>FCW</p> <p>Implementation of the gorge-walking code of conduct for the Waterfalls Country</p> <p>Scrub control and ditch restoration at Llangasty (part of Llangorse Lake SAC)</p> <p>Supporting the Vincent Wildlife Trust's "Beacons for Bats" project, a public awareness project for lesser horseshoe bats in the Park</p> <p>Habitat restoration at Henallt Common SSSI (part of natural gas pipeline enhancement works)</p> <p>Habitat enhancement at Mynydd Myddfai, part of the Mynydd Du Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest damaged by the natural gas pipeline</p> <p>Waun Figen Felen management forum (partnership with various stakeholders under a S106 agreement) to oversee further bog restoration work here; so far, has</p>	<p>2500 hectares on all key habitats and 90% on private land.</p> <p>2 dedicated conservation warden teams, one for woodlands, one for all other habitats. Additionally, 5 specialist staff for advice and guidance to landowners, plus specialist carpenters to increase value of low grade timber. Cost of service approximately £500k pa.</p> <p>Outcomes (Pembrokeshire Bird Atlas) demonstrate that whilst farmland bird populations continue to decline on intensively managed productive agricultural land, the marginal semi-natural land supports increasing numbers of birds.</p> <p>Coastal corridor is now a functioning 'green highway', with soil carbon content increasing as species diversity in the sward composition increases.</p> <p>The PCNPA Cilrhedyn Woodland Centre is a facility like no other in Wales. It provides countryside furniture for the National Park's</p>	<p>associations and Centre for Alternative Land Use</p> <p>Orchard Tree programme to encourage new orchard planting and restoration of existing</p> <p>Active involvement with graziers in managing circa 5000ha of common land</p> <p>Hedge laying courses set up with Lantra and Farming Connect with follow up grants for those attaining qualification</p> <p>Hedgerow planting scheme to follow on work of RTE &amp; Grant scheme with Tree Council in 2009</p>

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	<p>achieved some of the most successful bog restoration anywhere in Wales</p> <p>Cross-border erosion restoration project with CCW and Natural England, though Black Mountains Graziers Association object to the S38 fence application by NE in order to safeguard the restoration work</p> <p>Sponsorship and assistance to local artist to develop a new market for sheep’s wool as a felt to cover eroded peat, in peat restoration projects</p> <p>Partnership with Welsh Water in its Cantref Reservoir Catchment Management Project, Welsh Water’s first such project in Wales</p> <p>Part of the Forgotten Landscapes Project partnership affecting the Bloreng SSSI and Blaenavon WHS</p> <p>Continued controlled burning management (<i>with</i> a written heather and grass burning plan!) on three commons</p>	<p>rights of way networks made from locally sourced timber, predominately oak with larch and douglas fir. Cilrhedyn also sells products to the private sector and provides a sawmilling facility for local woodland owners. The demonstration of good practice and product development work are key components to providing support to the timber/woodland industry.</p>	

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	<p>Working closely with one commoners association on habitat improvements following the withdrawal of a Tir Gofal agreement</p> <p>Numerous education projects including schools packages, national curriculum support, support to eco-schools, residential courses at Danywenallt (YHA), guided walks, blogs, podcast guided walks, volunteer events</p> <p>Post-graduate projects offered, currently with Glamorgan University</p> <p>The Green Valleys Project <a href="http://www.thegreenvalleys.org">www.thegreenvalleys.org</a>, taking a simple idea and generating revenue and community cohesion through ecosystem services (water and potential energy)</p> <p>Five days FTE secondments by two officers working with The Green Valleys during current FY</p> <p>Wondering quite what to do about the proliferation of wind turbines</p>		

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	<p>beyond the Park’s southern fringes, which effectively destroy the Park’s wilderness value, which is one of the Park’s special qualities</p> <p>Many actions undertaken by the Biodiversity Champion, including training for Member Champions in other Welsh LPAs in north and south Wales</p> <p>Annual reports submitted by the Biodiversity Champion</p> <p>BBNPA the first LPA in Wales to agree a NERC biodiversity duty action plan with CCW and the WBP</p> <p>2010 “Pledge for the Future: Biodiversity and Climate Change Declaration” signed by every member of the BBNPA</p>		
<b>Some ideas for future projects in the Park</b>	<p>Preparation of site management plans for key sites</p> <p>Range of project proposals for submission to CCW’s grant fund</p> <p>Development of a research and enterprise prospectus, to achieve</p>	<p>PCNPA has completed the first phase of mapping habitat connectivity in the Park AND Pembrokeshire as a whole, to assist with targeted efforts for improving connectivity, species mobility and enhancing species populations at key locations. Will also be used to map carbon</p>	<p>Looking to work more with Ynni’r Fro</p> <p>Wild flower initiative to be developed with Community Councils</p>

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	<p>collaboration with research institutes and private sector organisations</p> <p>Possibility of participation in a mid-Wales peat bogs LIFE project</p> <p>Supporting Village Design Plans through the LDP</p>	<p>sequestration landscapes to focus effort on soil conservation.</p>	
<b>Limitations experienced by the NPAs under the above</b>	<p>True for the entirety of Wales, the resources available for biodiversity conservation in Wales are a paltry fraction of those available to farming and fishing through the CAP and CFP, and to development and highways maintenance through the private sector and Assembly Government/local authority budgets</p> <p>There is no difference recognised by the Assembly Government, through agri-environment schemes, to a farmer inside or outside a NP, yet NPs are the best of Wales' landscapes, therefore the farms within them are by definition the best of Wales' farms for landscape and biodiversity (this is borne out by the high number of designations within NPs)</p>	<p>Above schemes fill gaps left by national schemes; are flexible and adaptable.</p> <p>Success has been due to the long lead-in of building trust with sceptical farmers and landowners; most important aspect of conservation is building relationships.</p> <p>National agri-env' schemes are blunt instruments that aren't supported by proper monitoring, so no proof of effectiveness and no reward for those involved.</p> <p>Increased emphasis on audit and scrutiny risks stifling these flexible and responsive approaches.</p>	<p>Success has been due to the long lead-in of building trust with sceptical farmers and landowners; most important aspect of conservation is building relationships.</p> <p>Above schemes fill gaps left by national schemes; are flexible and adaptable.</p> <p>High number of Assembly Government consultations requiring a written response</p> <p>Diminishing resources to develop schemes that add value to the generic, or to fill gaps.</p>

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	<p>High number of Assembly Government consultations requiring a written response</p> <p>Increasing ecological demands from development control in response to national policy changes</p> <p>Increasing demands for more environmental outputs and outcomes (One Wales One Planet, WES, and soon-to-be NEF), against no additional resources provided</p> <p>Lack of sufficient attention paid to monitoring the state of the Park, i.e., outcomes</p> <p>Increasing burden for improvement monitoring and auditing</p> <p>Frustration that Glastir will not be targeted</p>		
<b>Summary of biodiversity coverage in NPMPs and LDPs</b>	<p>For <i>Conserving and Enhancing the National Park</i>, the NPMP sets strategic objectives and actions for landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity, historic environment, built environment, culture and traditions, air resources, water resources, soil</p>	<p>NPMP sets clear objectives and targets for condition of habitats and species in the Park, as well as summarising threats and trends. LDP could do with more emphasis on how to enhance biodiversity through development; SPG for biodiversity</p>	<p>Both NPMP and LDP include policies, aims and objectives for conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. NPMP includes 4 strategic objectives and 10 actions for biodiversity. Supported by research to examine</p>



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	<p>resources, minerals, energy, farming, woodlands and uplands. There are also relevant strategic objectives and actions for <i>Understanding and Enjoying the National Park</i> and <i>Economic and Social Well-being of Local Communities</i>.</p> <p>LDP was supported by a biodiversity assessment of all the candidate sites submitted for possible inclusion in the LDP development map.</p> <p>Desktop biodiversity audits have been completed for the major settlements in the Park.</p> <p>Are LDP policies for environmental protection, important wild species, biodiversity, trees, water resources, light pollution, soil and air quality, climate change and sustainable development, as well as policy rationale for natural resources, ecosystem services and food security.</p> <p>Both plans assessed through SEA and HRA.</p>	<p>and planning in preparation.</p> <p>Both plans assessed through SEA and HRA.</p>	<p>effects of future changes on Park's biodiversity. Additional research and projects will aim to enhance ecological connectivity and appreciation of economic importance of biodiversity.</p> <p>LDP overarching policy requires that development will only be supported where there is highest regard given and proven to biodiversity protection and enhancement. This will influence all other policies. NPA will shortly adopt SPG on biodiversity.</p> <p>Both plans assessed through SEA and HRA.</p>
<b>Extent of LBAP</b>	LBAP adopted in 2001; since the	LBAP officer shared with Pembs CC;	Present and future biodiversity

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<b>implementation in the Park</b>	announcement of the original 2010 and 2020 biodiversity targets, the objective for the LBAP was to 'stop the rot' by 2010 and to reverse the decline by 2020. Since the move by the WBP to form national ecosystem groups, the LBAP has relied on these groups for target setting. Is not the key driver in formulating actions.	LBAP provides useful policy context and rationale but not the key driver in formulating policy and actions.	projects guided by Outcome 21 database and national habitat action plans (national habitat ecosystem groups) as well as LBAP.
<b>Relevant member training</b>	So far 2 modules on biodiversity conservation, one on climate change and one on sustainable development	Member study tours to look at conservation in action	Bio-diversity, SD and climate change are built into regular workshops for members.