



Moors for the Future Partnership

Operational Plan 2017-2018

Including a review of 2016 –17 to date and a forward look for delivering legally committed contracts and expected areas of business development.

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Date: 18 January 2017



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I Executive Summary

This is the fifth annual Operational Plan produced by the Moors for the Future Partnership (MFFP). The Plan communicates to our funding partners and staff how we intend to deliver the agreed projects. We continue to report by project rather than by objective area.

This strengthening of our business planning reflects the organisational changes made during 2012-13 to transform MFFP from a project delivery vehicle to a programme delivery vehicle. These changes have the support and backing of our accountable body, the Peak District National Park Authority, and of our many partners.

Over the past 13 years the MFFP team has successfully delivered a range of technical solutions that address our mission - ***“to restore the quality of the South Pennine Moors, to improve its benefits as a quality water catchment area, a diverse ecological, recreational and agricultural resource which will be managed to ensure the enduring legacy of these benefits.”***

Over the past year (2016/17), on behalf of 16 partners, we will deliver 25 projects with a total project value in excess of £6.3m.

This year, **2017 - 18** we have a committed budget (to date) of £6m agreed with partners to deliver c.20 projects with an additional project value of £1.6m in the pipeline. In 2018-19 our operational plan covers the deployment of just over £3.3m (contracted), plus £1.5m (pipeline).

In our Business Plan 2013 – 2020 we address the bigger picture of how MFFP will develop the funding streams for further remediation and legacy management. We will produce updated Vision and Strategy documents and will be reviewing our suite of management documents over the next 12 months.

The continuing challenge for MFFP this year will be to ensure that the organisation has the capacity and capability to continue to deliver programmes over this transition phase. We are planning to continue the successful delivery of our programme of projects and our resource planning accounts for this. Last year saw significant development of our work on the benefits and delivery of Natural Flood Management (NFM) from upland land management, and 2017-18 will see us continue to extend our portfolio of NFM focused projects.

2 The policy and funding landscape surrounding the Partnership during the 2017-18 Operational Plan

Early Response and Requirements facing the Partnership as we prepare to leave the EU:

Over the past 14 years the Moors for the Future Partnership has raised funds and implemented conservation works with a value of £32 m to improve the condition of England’s most damaged and sensitive moorland habitats – those within the South Pennines and Dark Peak. This includes the revegetation of 30 km² of bare, eroding and desiccated peat in and around the South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation. All this work has been influenced by funding and regulatory guidance from the EU.

Peatlands cover around 26,000 km² of the UK’s land area (~10%). Leaving the EU and its existing environmental legislative framework poses significant risks to the environment if current drivers for environmental protection and improvements are weakened, e.g. the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive.

Blanket bog, a key peatland habitat, is a priority habitat in the EU's Species and Habitats Directive, supporting a nationally and internationally important assemblage of wildlife, with many of these populations in decline. Peatland is a priority for action under the UN Convention on Peatlands and the RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands, (Reed et al, 2010).

The hydrological function of these blanket bogs have critical impacts on the UK's inhabitants as they are vital instruments for supplying clean water throughout the year, sequestering carbon to reduce climate change and reducing flood risk. All of these public benefits are at risk as the UK leaves the EU and Common Agricultural Policy. The cost of inaction in terms of climate change impacts alone could reach billions of pounds (Keenleyside and Moxey, 2011).

An additional risk is that during this politically dynamic period, political objectives and ideologies may lead environmental policy rather than the needs of the environment itself.

Given the enormous impact the referendum decision will have on future environmental policy in the UK, and the impact that is likely to have on the UK's moorlands, MFFP has a unique and important view of this, as the Partnership (led by PDNPA) has implemented the majority of this type of work across the English uplands.

During this plan period it is likely that the Government's approach to the present CAP and EU environment regulations will be confirmed. The Partnership's staff team have already submitted a very well received report to the Environmental Audit Commission which the PDNPA CEO made use of in the Select Committee receiving this. The staff team will stay alert to further developments and contribute to the developing debate during this period to ensure every opportunity is taken to use the Moors for the Future experience to inform the debate to favour the work of our partners.

Other major Drivers for this Operational Plan period

The successful delivery of our projects will contribute to the four directional shifts of the Corporate Strategy and directly input into the indicators of success. We will continue to deliver conservation land management on a landscape scale, contributing to inspiring visitor experiences and connecting people by direct engagement and obtaining and reporting scientific evidence to audiences as appropriate. We actively seek funding opportunities from current and potential partners.

PDNPA Management Plan contribution – There is an opportunity (during this planning period, within the new Management Plan for the National Park) to promote and link the activities of the Partnership into the outcomes of the National Park Management Plan and in so doing form a much stronger Management Plan and a clear delivery role for the Partnership.

New vision requirement – a new vision for the partnership and its area of work is long overdue and attention will be given to this during this operational period.

AMP7 planning – our three water company partners are currently planning bids to Ofwat for their Asset Management Plan 7. The staff team will be offering assistance and providing evidence where requested for work in the catchments within the core working area of the Partnership.

Corporate Social Responsibility and public giving opportunities – we feel there are opportunities within the extensive population and business community surrounding the Partnership's working area to bring in funding. This is now a more pressing priority considering the uncertainty of funding availability post-2020 when the current EU project is coming to an end.

Successional planning – the Moor Business Project was unsuccessful in its original bid, this would have provided new business tools to support succession and future financial sustainability. This is still necessary and a second bid to fund this project is intended.

Developing the Moorland Centre – following the refurbishment of the Moorland Centre there will be an opportunity to sell some of the services of the staff team more efficiently and this will be explored during this planning period.

MoorLIFE 2020 / IUCN conference – This will be the biggest opportunity the Partnership has yet had to promote and consolidate its role and abilities, the staff team will be putting together an ambitious programme for the conference which all partners will no doubt wish to support and take advantage of.

3 The Purpose of the Operational Plan

The purpose of the Operational Plan is to allow members of the Peak District National Park’s Audit Resources and Performance Committee to monitor overall programme progress and how the MFFP outcomes and projects together achieve PDNPA - and our other partners’ - objectives. In particular, it will be the business tool by which MFFP manages its annual activities to achieve our objectives:

- **Objective One – Awareness Raising**

“To raise awareness and promote positive action for the conservation of the moorland landscape”

- **Objective Two – Conservation Management**

“To develop and deliver sustainable land management for these important upland resources, ensuring appropriate consideration of all of their benefits”

- **Objective Three - Science**

“To develop expertise for the sustainable management of moorlands ensuring that the programme is properly resourced with the capacity and capability to achieve this”

4 Look Back at 2016/17 (this is a summary of highlights to the end of December 2016)

Projects

MoorLIFE

The project work ended in August 2015 with the final report and claim submitted in December. We responded to clarifications and questions raised in April 2016 and received the final payment in July 2016 – this brings this project to a conclusion.



In May we were awarded a Best of Life award for the MoorLIFE Project – Partnership Chair, David Chapman, Brendon Wittram (Conservation Contracts Manager) and Philip Straton (Senior Conservation Works Officer) were presented with the award in Brussels.

Making Space for Water Project

This project was one of the three Defra funded Multi-Objective Flood Management projects evidencing the impact that catchment management can have on reducing flood risk and other benefits to the public. The project started in 2009 with funding ending in March 2016. During this time we have evidenced the significant impact that bare peat stabilisation has on slowing peak storm flows of blanket bogs and slowing the flow. The monitoring on this site will therefore continue post Defra funding until 2020 through the MoorLIFE 2020 project. This will provide data of the benefits of blanket bog restoration over a 10 year period (nine years post 'restoration' period).

Moscar Science Project

In 2016/17 the Moscar Science project continued to record post restoration water table data from dipwells installed during the gully blocking in winter 2015/16, and vegetation monitoring evidencing the impacts of the restoration. This included several campaigns involving weekly and monthly site visits to collect data. These were all completed by December 2016. Water quality and outflow data have also been collected in this period. The initial set up of the demonstration site and subsequent monitoring has now depleted the project budget. Accordingly, all the aims of this project have been fully met and it is now complete.

Natural England has confirmed that they will not provide further funding to enable the monitoring to continue. There exists however, a valuable opportunity to collect data to evidence the longer term impacts of the works given that all the initial set up on this site has been completed. MFFP are actively seeking continuation funding to do this.

Monitoring blanket bog recovery trajectories across the South Pennine Moors SAC

Natural England (NE Biodiversity Monitoring Project) and Yorkshire Water (Rishworth & Turley Monitoring Project) funded monitoring across key sites across our programme of monitoring sites to monitor changes in vegetation and water tables and contribute to the development of blanket bog recovery trajectories

Sphagnum establishment in Purple Moor Grass trials

Evidence to support achieving Favourable Condition Status on blanket bog habitat through land management intervention; and trials of introducing Sphagnum into Molinia caerulea dominated blanket bog project.

Monitoring Sphagnum Donor Sites Project

Monitoring the impact and recovery of wild harvesting Sphagnum on the donor Sphagnum site.

Natural England Milestones and Trajectories Project

Analysis of MFFP data on vegetation community and water table data and also Yorkshire Peat Partnership and North Pennine Moors AONB vegetation data to establish blanket bog recovery trajectories following 'restoration' in relation to achieving Favourable Condition Status.

Burbage Brook Monitoring Project

An Environment Agency and Natural England Funded Project monitoring the impact of coniferous woodland removal, and its replacement by broadleaved woodland on water flows and water quality.

Scoping Breeding Bird Survey of Peak District SPA

Project to support Natural England in the setting up of a BBS across the Peak District SPA

Etherow Upland Water Monitoring Network Project

MFFP have worked with our water company partners to secure funding for the Etherow UWMN site as Defra funding for this site has ended. This is an important monitoring site as it has been monitored for 30 years and provides valuable data on changes in water quality.

NT Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) work (Kinder, East Crowden, Park Hall, Lee Farm)

These HLS projects were completed with final applications of lime and fertiliser. Further works required on these sites in future will be undertaken through MoorLIFE 2020.

Glossop Clough Woodland Project

Commissioned by the Environment Agency, the project engages with four land managers within the catchment for Glossop Brook to advocate suitable opportunities for clough woodland creation. We are currently also working with some of these land managers through the Private Lands Portfolio, which is allowing good co-ordination to happen.

Derwent Catchment Clough Woodland Project

MFF's role within the Derwent Catchment Clough Woodland Project completed this year, with the handover completed to the National Trust of the English Woodland Grant Scheme for the High Peak Estate.

Clough Woodland Project

The project has undertaken and hosted a number of engagement visits over the year, to promote both the guiding principles and the woodland creation work which the team has helped to facilitate. These have included hosting the Forestry Commission's National Policy Team, National Farmers Union and the Woodland Trust. MFF have been approached by a number of private land managers seeking information on whether or not clough woodland would be beneficial to their land and fundable under the Countryside Stewardship scheme.

The reviewing and updating of the Guiding Principles in order to include new government policy and grant schemes, such as woodland creation grants within Countryside Stewardship, has taken place within this financial year. In addition opportunity mapping of a number of catchments on behalf of the Woodland Trust has taken place, including the Upper Mersey and Aire and Calder for clough woodland creation.

The project will undertake a refresh (scheduled for January 2017) this year. Working with the Clough Woodland Project Board members and other stakeholders, the project will undertake a SOAR (strengths, opportunities, aspirations and results) analysis. The outcome of which will be to set the strategic direction of the project and define, collectively, what results the project will seek to achieve in 2017 and beyond.

Wessenden Valley Natural Flood Risk Management

Undertaken in partnership with the White Rose Forest and funded by Kirklees MBC, this project produced a proposal to develop a demonstration site to showcase the possibilities of Natural Flood Risk Management (NFM) in an upland catchment within the Leeds City Region. The study focused on identifying and costing potential NFM opportunities, within specific areas of the Wessenden Brook catchment, Wessenden Valley, West Yorkshire.

Through an opportunity mapping exercise and ground truthing identified locations, MFFP have produced a report which includes scheme maps, illustrative images and description of techniques which could be utilised for an NFM programme.

Trawden Natural Flood Risk Management Scoping Study 2015-2017

Funded through the Environment Agency, the aim of the study is to scope out potential natural flood management (NFM) opportunities in the catchment of Trawden Brook, Lancashire. Working with the Environment Agency, geomorphologists from AECOM and flood modellers Edenvale Young, the study will model and estimate the potential impacts of NFM opportunities on peak flows and how proposed interventions may contribute towards managing a 1 in 50 year flood event. The study also includes a draft monitoring plan, a summary of potential sources for funding NFM interventions and the recalibration of the flood model.

UU non owned Catchment Monitoring Project

We continued monitoring water flows on Woodhead and Kinder to evidence the impact of bare peat stabilisation and gully blocking in erosion gullies within heather dominated blanket bog on water flows.

Arnfield Project

We delivered a small project (approximately £35,000) with a private landholder on Arnfield in North Longendale, to plant *Sphagnum* plug plants.

Private Land Portfolio:

The Private Lands Portfolio (PLP) was in its third year of delivery in 2016/17, and in terms of current project value (£5m) and physical works delivery 2016/17 is the mid-point for the project. Several capital works plans that have been delivered through the PLP since 2013/14 have ended in March 2017. Winter 2016/17 also saw the start of works on later assigned projects, which are due to complete in 2019.

The projects have had considerable obstacles to overcome in achieving the full recovery of MFFP's management costs. The issues experienced have been common to all projects within the portfolio, and originate principally with the projects' reliance on agreement holder cash flow (from HLS revenue payments) for MFFP's costs to be recovered. These issues were successfully resolved through close working with HLS agreement holders. An essential part of which has been MFFP leading a collaborative approach with NE and HLS agreement holders to find solutions that met both the PDNPA's and agreement holder's needs. Revised management fee recovery profiles were agreed with all of the HLS agreement holders as a variation to Clause 7 of their agreement with the PDNPA.

A draft PLP communications strategy was produced in 2016/17 and will be integrated with the wider MFFP Communications Strategy.

Saddleworth HLS

2016/17 was the last year of capital works delivery for MFFP on Saddleworth. Work started on this site in 2013/14. During this period, bare peat revegetation and grip and gully blocking were completed across the whole of this holding, including *Sphagnum* application. The work on the site is not complete and it will continue through MoorLIFE 2020. One aspect of the works in the Wessenden Valley discussed above, suggested a project to assess the feasibility of introducing seeds for twite, a key species in the area, as part of the sward diversification works on Roacher Moss, which was completed.

Grindsbrook HLS

- Gully blocking works were completed by 31 March 2016
- Follow up brashing work as part of bare peat revegetation works was completed in summer 2016.
- Lime and maintenance fertiliser treatments were completed in summer 2016.

Crowden West HLS

- Follow up brashing work was completed in summer 2016.
- Lime and maintenance fertiliser treatments were completed in summer 2016.
- Gully blocking works using heather bales and stone dams was completed by February 2017.

Moscar HLS

- The land was sold in September 2016 and we have since established positive communications with the new owner.
- Planning and design for the repair of Cutthroat Bridleway was at an advanced stage by Christmas 2016 with the finalised specifications agreed in January 2017. The delivery schedule for the work was also agreed at that stage. Works are to commence on site in February 2017 and are anticipated for completion by 31 March 2017.

Deer Hill Moss HLS

2016/17 was the last year of capital works delivery for MFFP on Deer Hill Moss. Work started on this site in 2013/14. All bare peat revegetation, grip and gully blocking works have been completed.

Peaknaze HLS

- Peaknaze is one of the original HLF project sites and monitoring has continued on the site since 2003. Work to deliver the current HLS scheme started in 2014 and all follow-up brashing works in area 8, 10 & 11 were completed this year.
- Gully blocking plans were in place by December 2016 with works anticipated for delivery this year.

The Roych HLS and Lee Farm HLS

- The Brown Knoll footpath was completed, which includes the section on National Trust's Lee Farm (2980m). This has been a project that we have been trying to address since the original HLF project.

Mossy Lea HLS

- Agreement for the management fee revisions is pending as at December 2016.
- PDNPA clarified that gully blocking on Mossy Lea will not require planning permission. MFFP remain on hold for this capital element as at December 2016, and are waiting for the agreement holder's instructions to commence the works preparations.
- NE confirmed the gully blocking budget will be carried over into 2017/18.
- Brashing works commenced on Mossy Lea in November 2016 with the treatment to be completed by 31 March 2017.

Wessenden Head HLS

- The project remains unassigned as at December 2016.
- MFFP did not progress on this project in 2016/17. NE is leading on the confirmation of this and will update MFFP on the status of the project later this year.

Stalybridge HLS

- The final lime and fertiliser treatments were delivered in summer 2016.
- The final claims and management fee recovery have been completed.
- These were the final actions on this project which is now complete.
- No further work is anticipated.

MorrIDGE Moors HLS

- The HLS agreement holder assigned the project to MFFP in December 2016.
- The project was recommended to the PDNPA for acceptance in January 2017 after which the project became live. The initial delivery on this project was planned for March 2017.

Turncliff Common HLS

- The HLS agreement holder was provided with the assignment paperwork for MFFP to deliver the project in December 2016.
- Once the agreement holder has assigned the project it will be recommended to the PDNPA for acceptance in January/February 2017 after which the project will become live. Initial delivery is planned for March 2017 in tandem with the MorrIDGE Moor capital works.

Community Science Project

This year saw the launch of new Targeted (Buds, berries and leaves) and Opportunistic (Ring Ouzel and Redwings) surveys - adding to the existing suite of wildlife monitored as indicators of moorland health and evidencing the impact of a changing climate on our uplands. A new site was also added to the network of Environmental Monitoring locations across the South Pennine Moors. Volunteer roles have been defined and a volunteer recruitment process developed, including face-to-face Volunteer Welcome

Inductions to encourage volunteer retention. Community Science has engaged with hundreds of people living, working and visiting the Peak District National Park to explore the moorlands and has facilitated the delivery of over 400 volunteer days (April – October 2016). CSP also took the lead in the delivery of Monitoring Indicators of Climate Change a national initiative engaging with schools to monitoring the impact of climate change on moorlands.

MoorLIFE2020 Project

MoorLIFE 2020 has had a successful set up and planning year and is in a very strong position to deliver on time and to budget. Project staff recruitment was undertaken and preparatory actions were undertaken in accordance with the project plans.

The schedule and budget were baselined at the end of July and is now under change control. The project was launched on 20 May 2016 in Holmfirth. A land cover map and a land issue map have been produced covering the South Pennine Moors SAC. Five trajectory reports have been produced.

An Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) has been purchased and the team are well on the way to being CAA certified pilots. Preparation is progressing as planned to have the science monitoring set up and ready to capture the baseline data. The conservation and land management team have been busy putting in place the framework tenders and contracts required to deliver MoorLIFE 2020.

Work started on 24 August 2016 with our partners, the National Trust, flying materials onto Derwent and Howden Moor so that gully blocking can start. Work has also started on RSPB land. The initial phases of the conservation actions have been agreed with our partners and the water companies.

GENERAL PARTNERSHIP – NOT PROJECT-SPECIFIC

Advocacy (meetings / initiatives) and events attended

The team have represented the Moors for the Future Partnership and its interests at a wide range of regional and national meetings and initiatives (as delegates, technical advisors and / or steering committee members) including:

- Peak District Fire Operations Group
- SOURCE Project (Calderdale)
- IUCN Peatlands UK
- Upper Mersey Catchment Partnership
- Don and Rother Catchment Partnership
- Aire and Calder Catchment Partnership
- Derbyshire Derwent Catchment Partnership
- Calderdale Flood Risk Partnership
- Sheffield City Council Flood Risk Strategy meetings
- Workshops and community drop in for flood risk reduction in Uppermill
- Assisted University of Manchester at NERC funded science festival, Into the Blue, in Manchester with materials about our conservation work, monitoring and citizen science.

Presentations (oral, posters)

- Presentation on the benefits of natural processes from the uplands of the South Pennines SAC to Natural Kirklees Conference
- Poster and presentation at the Ecosystem Services Conference in Antwerp
- Keynote addresses at Pennine Prospects and Cumbria BogLIFE conferences
- Presentation on community science at the Europarc conference

- IUCN Peatland Programme, 5 presentations, hosted a workshop and presented 4 posters on the Land Cover Map of the South Pennine Moors, MoorLIFE 2020 project, a roadmap to blanket bog restoration, ecosystem services benefits
- Presentation to Peatland Ambassadors meeting through an IUCN event sponsored by Savilles in London.
- Spoke to HRH Prince Edward on benefits to NFM whilst joining his walk across Kinder as part of the Diamond Challenge
- Flood and Coast 2017 – Role of the Uplands in Natural Flood Management.

Student visits / field trips

- Manchester Metropolitan University geography student visit; presentation to first year students
- National Parks Educators' Conference
- Peak District Conservative Association (Glossop Branch) – Update on MFFP works
- Defra Life funding workshops
- Lunchtime seminar at Manchester Metropolitan University
- Sheffield Hallam University – evening Geography Departmental seminar talk on work of MFFP and science programme
- Sheffield Hallam University – afternoon visit of Geography students
- 'Science in the Park' events, Peak District National Park

We continued to participate in the IUCN Peatland Programme UK Steering Group, as well as participating in and leading on the working group to identify barriers to action across the UK.

Events hosted

- Site visit with PDNPA Head of Policy and DCC Principal Climate Change officer to advocate natural processes and green infrastructure of the upper catchment as efficient carbon sink
- Visits from three EA Directors, outlining the importance of catchment management works
- Visit with the EA Economics and Social Science Team
- Visit to Making Space for Water project site on Kinder Scout with Environment Agency National Biodiversity Manager Alastair Driver, Principal Scientist Lydia Burgess Gamble and the Upland Specialist Team of Natural England to see the effects of our work on natural flood risk management
- EFRA Scrutiny Committee visit to Dark Peak was hosted by MFFP staff team as part of evidence gathering prior to producing the recent House of Commons report on flooding
- PDNPA corporate services away day
- Walk onto Brown Knoll, (Kinder Scout) with partners to mark the completion of footpath works.

Research Facilitation

Student Placements

Catherine Ansell, undergraduate student at Manchester Metropolitan University spent 9 months with us on a placement.

Research Collaborations

MFFP collaborated on 10 proposals for (research council) funding (at December 2016). Of these, 4 were unsuccessful, we are awaiting decisions on 4, and two have been successful:

- A PhD studentship looking at the impacts of peatland pipe blocking: supporting future peatland restoration best practice at the University of Leeds (within MoorLIFE2020)
- 'Catapult funding' for sustainable living applications of satellite technologies for EnviroSAR: Managing Wildfire Disturbance in Moorlands and Heathlands at the University of Manchester

Web/online

In addition to supporting project communications the team ensured the Partnership's online presence was maintained with regular updates about our work:

- We produced a quarterly MoorNews e-newsletter for partners and stakeholders, covering Partnership news and project work to an increasing subscriber list of 1,000 (December 2016).
- We updated the Partnership website with news items, new project information, research news, posters and video pages to refresh content. There were a total of 113,000 page views from 26,600 website users (an 18% increase of website users on the previous calendar year).
- Our continued presence on social media was strengthened with planned campaigns and scheduled posts to make the most of opportunities to take part in national days and share and support the work of our partners, alongside our own work and a growth in social media followers of between 20–62%.

Media highlights

Our regular planned media release schedule resulted in national and regional coverage of:

- Our work on reintroduction of Sphagnum mosses, in relation to natural flood risk management.
- Launch of the MoorLIFE 2020 project by Rory Stewart MP.
- The first works undertaken by the MoorLIFE 2020 project.
- The flagged footpath over Brown Knoll (Kinder Scout) that will protect the vulnerable peat habitat.
- New citizen science surveys on buds berries and leaves and redwings.
- Citizen science photo competition.

Outputs

Reporting / publications

- Pilkington 2016 - Trajectories report for NE
- Pilkington 2016 – Trajectories reports from MoorLife 2020
- Crouch et al 2016 – Sphagnum report
- Crouch et al 2016 – Land Cover Map of South Pennines Kinder Scout Sphagnum propagule and dense plug plant trials: One year after planting
- MoorLIFE 2020 D5 Carbon Audit update report 2016
- Harvesting Sphagnum from donor sites: Update report for 2015 /16
- MoorLIFE 2020 Land Cover Map of the South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation – work package one methods and results
- MoorLIFE 2020 Land Cover Map of the South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation – work package two methods and results
- Manual: Creating and interpreting combined land issue maps

Articles

Stimson, A. et al 2017 – Reservoirs as hotspots of fluvial carbon cycling in peatland catchments

Programme Management – achievements 2016/17

Our staff of 5 permanent, 24.8 fixed term and 34 casual posts delivered projects with a value >£6.7m.

We negotiated, tendered, contracted, and processed financial transactions with more than 100 contractors and suppliers and drew down funds/made claims amounting to £7.2m. Claims were drawn down from the Heritage Lottery Fund, EU LIFE fund and against Natural England Higher Level Stewardship scheme in accordance with agreements. These are set to continue next year.

Quality assurance checks were undertaken on a quarterly basis – ensuring claims and financial data is up to date and reconciled with the National Park financial function. Associated Beneficiaries of the MoorLIFE 2020 Project (National Trust, Pennine Prospects, RSPB) also benefit from this procedure.

We trialled monthly time recording to enable recharging of time across projects to be more coherent. An online system is being investigated to further enhance this function.

Our Project Management toolkit continues to be developed. Weekly project updates reports take place and meetings with individual project managers have been increased to take place on a rolling 4 weekly basis. We continue to strive to improve our project and programme management techniques. We attended the following conferences:

IUCN Conference in Shrewsbury
Pennine Prospects Conference in Halifax
Cumbria BogLIFE Conference in Keswick
Making Moor Space Workshop at Thorne Moors
Flow Country Conference, Thurso

Training in piloting UAVs, MS Project, Excel and Access; GIS software, NPA Job Evaluation panel, ecological identification, resilience, stakeholder engagement, outdoor first aid, social media (as well as individual coaching and mentoring) was undertaken.

Four Partnership Strategic Management Group meetings and two workshops on our future vision document took place during the year.

There have been approximately 3,490 hours of work undertaken by our casual teams between April and October 2016. Our pool of casual Conservation Works Officers, Research & Monitoring Assistants and Communications Officers were strengthened.

The cross-project system of working continues to enable us to use resources efficiently and gives us resilience in our programme management. Added value is key to our placement in the sector.

We met with staff from Thorne and Hatfield Moors, the Cumbria BogLIFE Project, an Estonian LIFE project and hosted a joint visit from LIFE projects from Lithuania and Latvia, We also met with the South West Peak Project and SciuriousLIFE Project to share our financial management and project start up processes and protocols.

Staff changes during the year:

Many staff continue to work across multiple projects.

Starting:

Dave Chandler and Paul Titterton were appointed as Research & Monitoring Officers (Paul as maternity cover for Jemma Benson).

Richard Guy and Dewi Jackson joined us as Conservation Works Officers

Rebecca Cassidy was appointed Senior Communications Officer and Jody Vallance as Communication and Engagement Officer.

Moving:

Debra Wilson was appointed Communications Programme Manager.

Leaving:

Rob Twiggs left to take up the post of Natural Flood Management Project Officer at Calderdale

5 This year's Activity – 2017/18

Continuing Projects

Continued monitoring across our programme of monitoring sites

We will keep our monitoring sites ongoing subject to available resources (Kinder Catchment Project, Woodhead Gully Blocking Monitoring Project, MoorLIFE Project, Catchment Restoration Fund Project sites) to evidence continued recovery of 'restoration' sites on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and their resilience to climate change. Additionally we are seeking resources to continue to monitor the sites we have set up in the Upper Derwent Catchment to evidence the impact of clough woodland establishment on water flows and water quality.

Upland Woodland Monitoring Project

We will continue to monitor the sites we have set up in the Upper Derwent Catchment to evidence the impact of clough woodland establishment on water flows and water quality.

Monitoring Sphagnum Donor Sites Project

We will continue our monitoring of the impact of harvesting wild Sphagnum on donor sites and their recovery

Burbage Brook Monitoring Project

We will continue to monitor the impact of broadleaf woodland establishment on water quality and water flows on Burbage Brook

Clough Woodland Project

The SOAR session with project board members and other stakeholders will produce a greater level of detail on the anticipated outputs of the project. However, work will continue to engage with land managers on the benefits of woodland creation, including undertaking the Forestry Commission's Woodlands for Water Advisor role within Yorkshire and the North East.

Trawden Natural Flood Risk Management Scoping Study 2015-17

The project will submit the final scoping study in March 2017. However, we anticipate that there may be a role for MFF in either the delivery or monitoring of NFM interventions should the scheme gain approval from the Environment Agency.

Private Land Portfolio:

The portfolio will enter into its third year of delivery in 2017/18 and approach the project mid-point in terms of capital spending. In 2017/18 six active HLS capital works plans will remain in progress, following the completion of works on both Saddleworth and Deer Hill Moss on 31 March 2017. This will bring to a close 3 years of capital works on these sites addressing residual bare peat and hydrological restoration actions from the previous ESA capital works (2011-2013).

Two new small scale projects in the South West Peak will be initiated on Morridge Moor and Turncliffe common, both projects aim to restore moorland hydrology. Further assignments to the Portfolio are also anticipated including grip blocking and bare peat restoration on The Roych, working in tandem with the HLS agreement holder in delivery (this is unconfirmed). It is also anticipated that the capital works plan on Wessenden Head will enter its first year of delivery and will have involvement for MFFP as yet to be confirmed.

Saddleworth HLS

We are continuing to work on Saddleworth through MoorLIFE 2020. However we are not expecting any works to continue on this site through the HLS agreement in 2017/18, because:

- All capital works on this site will be completed by 31 March 2017.
- Following the completion of works MFFP will complete our final claims to NE for capital costs.
- MFFP will issue invoices for our full management costs prior to the 31 March 2017.

- Following the completion of capital cost claims MFFP will confirm full cost recovery for management costs and the project will be closed.
- No follow-up works are proposed.

Grindsbrook HLS and Crowden West HLS

These two holdings are adjacent to each other and are being managed together. Grindsbrook will enter its fourth year of capital works delivery and West Crowden will enter its second year as a separate HLS to Grindsbrook in 2017/18. The immediate bare peat revegetation and hydrological restoration elements of the capital works have been completed and the remaining works will focus on increasing species diversity, and more specifically will involve the reintroduction of sphagnum mosses into 22ha of recently restored habitat across the two schemes.

Bracken control treatments to 35ha of Grindsbrook will enter their third year building on treatments in 2014/15 & 2016/17. This will involve a tailored follow up approach and may involve both aerial and knapsack treatments as required. The 2017/18 scope of the treatment will be refined in spring 2017. 2018/19 will be the final year of bracken control on this site and will also be the final activities contained within the current capital works.

Moscar HLS

HLS capital works on Moscar Moor will enter their final year in 2017/18. Following the completion of repair works to 1500m of the Cutthroat Bridleway the remaining capital works elements are focused on species diversification of blanket bog.

Diversification actions are planned to include the introduction of sphagnum into areas of hydrological restoration (gully blocking) completed by the project in 2015/16. The introduction of sphagnum on the site is anticipated to include the use of both translocated sphagnum (where appropriate), and the use of plug plants grown specifically for the project. This will be the final capital works element of the Moscar Moor project.

The Moscar Science Project (2015/16 – 2016/17) was successful in setting up hydrological monitoring on the site to evidence the effects of the restoration. This data will be used to inform the sphagnum introduction works, and it is MFFP's aspiration to secure further funding to continue the monitoring on Moscar, with the potential for the site to be established as a trial/demonstration site for sphagnum introduction. Moors for the Future will be in discussion with our partners in 2017/18 to assess the potential to capitalise on this opportunity.

Deer Hill Moss HLS

Currently, we do not anticipate any further works on Deer Hill Moss in 2017, as:

- All capital works on this site will be completed by 31 March 2017.
- Following the completion of works MFFP will complete our final claims to NE for capital costs.
- MFFP will issue invoices for our full management costs prior to the 31 March 2017.
- Following the completion of capital cost claims MFFP will confirm full cost recovery for management fees and the project will be closed.

Peaknaze HLS

The capital works on Peaknaze will enter their third and final year in 2017/18. This will follow on from the bare peat revegetation undertaken in 2015/16 and the first phases of hydrological restoration undertaken 2016/17. The second phase of gully blocking works (heather bale and stone dams) will be delivered in 2017/18 completing the hydrological restoration actions on this project.

An approach is currently being defined with NE for addressing areas of Peaknaze which were treated under the original HLF scheme. These are not following the desired trajectory, becoming dominated by

cushion-moss (*Campylopus introflexus/pilifer*) and works in these areas is planned for March 2017 to bring them back towards active blanket bog.

The hydrological restoration on Peaknaze will be closely tied to and co-ordinated with other Moors for the Future projects delivering hydrological restoration within the Glossop catchment. This includes gully blocking on Mossy Lea, and opportunity mapping for clough woodland within the Glossop catchment. All outcomes related to hydrological restoration within this catchment will be optimised for Natural Flood risk Management (NFM). We are currently investigating whether further funds are available to support NFM monitoring and evaluation within the Glossop catchment, which, if successful, would hopefully start next year.

Final lime and maintenance fertiliser treatments will be delivered in 2017/18, and it is hoped and anticipated that sufficient funding will remain in the plan following the achievement of the revegetation and hydrological outcomes to allow for species diversification actions to be included in the works. If possible, it is hoped that this will include the introduction of sphagnum mosses into the areas restored by the project.

The Roych HLS and Lee Farm HLS

Following the successful completion of the Brown Knoll path in 2016/17, MFFP are anticipated to be assigned in 2017/18 to work with the HLS agreement holder on the remaining elements of their HLS capital works plan. This includes grip blocking to restore moorland hydrology and bare peat revegetation.

MFFP's involvement in the project will be to undertake all the pre-planning and project management elements, and also provide technical support and works supervision for the HLS agreement holder, who is planning to undertake the physical delivery of the works. MFFP's remit on this project is unconfirmed as at January 2017 with the assignment process ongoing. We are looking at working with both the agreement holder and Natural England to keep funds within the farming community in the Peak District, whilst working within the HLS scheme rules. This may allow the development of new opportunities to work with the land management communities into the future.

Mossy Lea HLS

Mossy Lea will enter the second year of capital works delivery in 2017/18 with brashing works having been completed in 2016/17. The year two works will include a limited top up to the previous brash treatment, ensuring all bare areas are adequately addressed. This will be followed by the aerial application of lime, seed and fertiliser to 155 ha.

It is hoped that gully blocking works on hold in 2016/17 may be able to proceed into delivery in 2017/18. It is anticipated that this will involve gully blocking in approximately 11,194m of gullies using a range of techniques. Mossy Lea will be closely co-ordinated with other projects with overlapping outcomes in the Glossop catchment, and similar to Peaknaze all outcomes associated with hydrological restoration will be optimised for Natural Flood risk Management (NFM).

Wessenden Head HLS

Final confirmation of the assignment of the Wessenden Head HLS capital works to MFFP remains outstanding as at January 2017. It is hoped and anticipated that the capital works will be in a position to progress into delivery in 2017/18, with much of the assignment process already complete pending Natural England's final approval of MFFP being appointed as agreement management agent.

The Year 1 works anticipated for 2017/18 include 6,280m of stock proof fencing that will happen in advance of the bare peat revegetation elements of the project. The fence work will be followed by 7,110 bags of heather brash as part of bare peat restoration and 103ha of lime, seed and fertiliser treatments.

Morridge Moors HLS

Capital works on Morridge Moor were assigned to MFFP in 2016/17 with the works anticipated to involve hydrological restoration on intact moorland in the South West Peak. Specifically the project will involve grip blocking in 800 linear metres of grips installing circa 75 peat dams and 25 stone dams. This is a small project and is planned to be delivered in tandem with other small scale projects in the South West Peak to take advantage of a combined delivery approach. The work will be closely coordinated with the MoD who are the landowner and will be completed by November 2017.

Turncliffe Common HLS

Capital works on Turncliffe Common were due to be assigned to MFFP in 2016/17. The works involve hydrological restoration on intact grassland/moorland fringe in the South West Peak. This will involve grip blocking with machine built peat dams in 350 linear metres of grips. This is a small project and is planned to be delivered with other small projects located in the South West Peak. At present MFFP's assignment on this site is limited to this single action.

The project is under Countryside Stewardship (CS) rather than HLS, and will have an amended terms with the Natural England agreement holder to that of other PLP projects delivering under the outgoing HLS scheme. Turncliffe Common is to be used as a pilot project for MFFP's future involvement in delivering Countryside Stewardship projects. Upon the successful completion of this project the PLP will return to the PDNPA Audit Resource Performance Committee to secure further authority to accept other CS funded projects into the PLP portfolio.

Community Science Project

The project will continue to engage new and existing volunteers in the three levels of moorland monitoring: Opportunistic, Targeted and Environmental. This year will see the launch of new Opportunistic and Targeted surveys as well as the installation of three new Environmental Monitoring sites. Volunteers will take an increasing lead as survey trainers. We will continue to increase our audience reach through our communications and engagement events. Our volunteer strategy and legacy planning documents will be finalised.

MoorLIFE2020 Project

Conservation works for the first 3 months of 2017 include bare peat work on the following moors: Alport, Ronksley, Birchinlee, Derwent and Howden with the National Trust and Kinder, Soyland, Dean Head and Crowden. Elsewhere, in the same time period, we will be gully blocking on Derwent and Howden, Soyland, Kinder, Dean Head, Crowden and East Crowden.

Also on the agenda is cutting on Birchinlee, Soyland, Dean Head and Derwent and Howden Moors. Sphagnum application will be carried out by the RSPB on Crowden.

A comprehensive schedule has been drawn up for late 2017 and early 2018 when we are scheduled to work on the following moors : Arnfield, Ashop, Ashway, Bradfield, Butterly, Close Moss, Crowden, Heptonstall, Keithley, Nether Moor, Rishworth, Ronksley, Saddleworth, Snailsden, Stalybridge, Turley Holes, Twizle Head Moss, Warley, Wessenden and Wessenden Head. The schedule is subject to change.

We are continuing with stakeholder management engagement focusing on the stakeholders impacted towards the end of the project. The engagement will be supplemented with the production of the Land Management Guidance for Active Blanket Bogs which is scheduled to be available in the first half of 2017.

We will have the heather, molinia and cotton-grass monitoring sites in place for the end of March 2017. Members of the MFF Science team have the CAA pilot's exam on 24 January. Once this exam has been successfully passed and the UAV operation plan has been approved by the CAA, the team will also be in

a position to capture baseline aerial photography of the monitoring sites using the UAV. The team are scheduled to be operational in early Spring. This data will be used to reference against in future years as we monitor the restoration trajectory of each site.

The work on blocking peat pipes and monitoring the effectiveness and efficiency of blocking starts in January with the recruitment of a PhD student. The work this year will include a survey of the proposed trial site and design of the blocking and monitoring in preparation of the monitoring starting in March 2018.

We will have a database of wildfire incidents collated from across the South Pennine Moors SAC by 28 February. The next Carbon Audit running from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 will be published in August 2017. The baseline socio-economic impact of MoorLIFE 2020 will be captured during 2017.

Spring of 2017 will see the launch of the Bogtastic experience incorporating static installations and a mobile element of the Bogtastic experience in the form of the Bogtastic van. A calendar of Bogtastic events will drawn up.

The communications team will be co-ordinating the media profile of MoorLIFE 2020 with the MoorLIFE 2020 national conference (currently being developed as Bogfest) due in September. Bogfest will be held in partnership with the IUCN UK Peatland Programme.

We will continue with our extensive engagement with more LIFE-funded and other projects during the year; we proved a popular destination in 2016 and we expect to host similar visits in 2017. We will also be conducting research into a new project website during 2017.

Research Facilitation

Student Placements

We aim to support at least one placement student.

Student Projects

We aim to provide support to at least 20 student projects.

Data Requests

We aim, where appropriate, to fulfil all data requests.

Student Projects supported:

We aim to set up at least two new PhDs towards delivery of MFFP's aims and objectives.

Research Collaborations:

We aim to collaborate on 10 research proposals for submission for external funding towards delivering MFFP's aims and objectives.

New and Unconfirmed projects

Working with MoorLIFE 2020 partners

We have a paper going to Audit Resources & Performance Committee in January 2017 on allowing us to work with MoorLIFE 2020 partner organisations to deliver works outside MoorLIFE2020. These would be delivered as part of the existing programme of works, if that could be done efficiently. We have asked for approval for up to £1.5 million in any financial year, to be delegated to the Director of Conservation and Planning, with the approval of the Chief Finance Officer.

Currently, we have had requests from Yorkshire Water Services to undertake two pieces of work.

Snailsden and Thurlstone HLS agreements

We are developing schemes with Yorkshire Water to deliver HLS capital works plans for grip and gully blocking on these two sites in the Langsett area of the National Park. The scale and delivery mechanism for this work will depend on the decision of the January Audit, Resources and Performance Committee meeting, as we currently have approval to undertake £150,000 of work for Yorkshire Water. This work is likely to happen early in 2017/18.

Working with EA to deliver NFM

We are currently working on a project, initially funded through EA Local Levy funding to the core team, to develop a catchment-wide NFM scheme for the Derbyshire Derwent Catchment Partnership. This work is likely to progress in 2017/18, with further funding being sought to when the scheme is scoped further. We do not anticipate significant project delivery within this project in 2017/18.

We have also very recently been awarded EA Local Levy funding (January 2017) to develop an NFM scheme across the whole of the upper catchment of Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Cheshire. We have outlined a process by which on-the-ground activities could be delivered, and will be working with the EA GMMC team to develop further projects. We anticipate that there may be significant further works with either EA or lead local flood authorities (e.g. Calderdale, Kirklees, Sheffield City Council) to deliver land management actions for NFM.

Advice and project delivery

During 2016/17, we provided some advice to the Woodland Trust on their newly purchased Smithills estate, near Bolton. They have suggested that they would like us to work with them further, due to the experience that we have in the type of work required on the site. We also provided advice to the Mourne Mountains AONB in Northern Ireland, and are due to do further work with them to help them deliver improvements to peatlands there.

We are keen to use the expertise that we have delivered over the last 14 years, in project delivery, working at a landscape scale in the uplands (particularly on peatlands and woodlands) to help other organisations and protected landscapes achieve improvements in biodiversity and ecosystem function.

Programme Management - 2017/18

Table 1: Core and Project Funding 2017/18

Contracted/approved	Core funding £	Core funding from projects £	Total core funding £
Operational Partners			
PDNPA	90,000		90,000
Environment Agency	60,000		60,000
National Trust	15,000		15,000
Pennine Prospects	2,000		2,000
RSPB	7,500		7,500
Severn Trent	15,000		15,000
United Utilities	15,000		15,000
Yorkshire Water	15,000		15,000
Sub total	219,500	0	219,500
Project Partners			
HLF		2,283	2,283
Sub total	0	2,283	2,283
Total	219,500	2,283	221,783

Pipeline	Core funding £	Core funding from projects £	Total core funding £
Operational Partners			
Derbyshire CC	20,000		20,000
Sub total	20,000	0	20,000
Project Partners			
Multiple partners		50,000	50,000
Sub total	0	50,000	50,000
Total	20,000	50,000	70,000

Our establishment costs are c.£385,000 - to support a core team of 5 permanent staff with additional technical, research and administration staff assistance (approximately 2.4 wte) where required.

We are actively managing the core funding deficit - exploring additional projects with partners is one of the programme managers' core activities, responding to calls for potential work and proactively seeking financial resources with current and future partners, including maximising match funding opportunities. We have a high level of confidence that we will achieve this funding during the year.

The Core team:

Head of Partnership - Chris Dean

Communication Programme Manager – Debra Wilson

Programme Manager – Conservation Land Management - Matt Buckler

Programme Office Manager – Sharon Davison

Science Programme Manager – Jonathan Walker

The core team covers

- Business development and leadership
- Advocacy and opportunity creation
- Providing expert advice, techniques and methodologies on topic areas which Moors for the Future Partnership has developed
- Programme management and logistics
- Performance management and reporting
- Communications and website development
- Staff management, recruitment and induction
- Trouble shooting and emergency cover
- Financial monitoring and management
- Setting and monitoring protocols

Reports and claims continue to be made for the Community Science Project and Private Lands Portfolio.

Table 2: Projects 2017/18

Projects contracted/approved	ARP Committee Minute Reference	Anticipated gross expenditure of project work 2017/18 £	Funders
Community Science	39/14	282,000	HLF, EA, NE, NT, STW, UU, YWS
Private Lands Portfolio	48/13, 38/14	1,796,814	NE
MoorLIFE 2020	38/15	3,932,688	PDNPA, EU LIFE, STW, UU, YWS, NT, PP, RSPB
River Etherow Monitoring	RMT 46/16	18,000	STW, UU, YWS
Working with Partners (note this is max per annum, tbc for 17/18)	06/17	1,500,000	STW, UU, YWS, NT, PP, RSPB
Pipeline – subject to relevant approval			
Transitional Funding		175,000	HLF +
NFM across upland catchments of GMMC		13,190	EA
Sub total		1,688,190	
Total		7,717,692	

Partners (abbreviations where used):

PDNPA	Peak District National Park Authority
EU LIFE	European Commission - Environment - LIFE Programme
EA	Environment Agency
HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund
NE	Natural England
NT	National Trust
PP	Pennine Prospects
RSPB	RSPB
STW	Severn Trent Water
UU	United Utilities
WT	Woodland Trust
YWS	Yorkshire Water Services

Project Teams

We expect to appoint two Research & Monitoring Officers and a Communication and Engagement Officer during the year.

Further recruitment will take place as appropriate for project delivery in accordance with programme planning and approval.

Advocacy and events

The team will continue to represent the Moors for the Future Partnership and its interests at a wide range of relevant regional, national and international meetings and initiatives and disseminate our scientific findings generated from our research and monitoring programme to best evidence future land management initiatives and best practice.

Communications strategy

The communications team will review existing communications channels with a view to tailoring communications to key target audiences. We will set up an annual programme of events to deliver our citizen science and Bogtastic public engagement.

An Annual Report will be produced as the first of our revised business documents.

Training and Development

The Moors for the Future Partnership is a learning organisation which is pioneering innovation in the science of moorland remediation and management. We will continue to develop the skills and capability of our staff as identified in the annual learning and development plans.

The programme team will review MFFP strategic business documents (including this operational plan) to reflect stakeholder needs and the new vision and strategy.

6 Risk Assessment

Programme Management risks are monitored on a quarterly basis. Any changes in risk will be identified to PDNPA (as lead partner) and significant risks highlighted on the Directorate and/or Corporate Risk Register. Strategic Management Group will be advised. In addition, individual project issues are identified on the Programme Progress Log and reviewed at our monthly project management meetings.

Description of Risk	Impact on Programme	Impact (I)	Probability (P)	Risk Rating	Mitigating Actions
Loss of key personnel: Failure to maintain core income	Programme management affected. Bidding for future work and funding impacted PDNPA Management Plan adversely affected. Failure to obtain future project funding.	3	2	6	Funding opportunities with strategic focus identified and followed up as appropriate. Reduce hours/redundancy of core team. Financial contingency in place. The Moor Business Project will assist funding strategy.
Loss of key personnel: Staff recruitment / retention	Programme management and delivery affected	2	3	6	Consistency of job evaluation and grading across Authority. Adequate project support particularly during start up and final months of projects.
Failure to engage partners	Current and future projects	3	2	6	Key role and objective of Partnership Manager role. Robust Action Plan; active engagement, communication and awareness raising. The Moor Business Project will assist communications strategy.
IT – inadequate provision	Remote working, Business continuity adversely affected. Loss of historic data	3	2	6	System to allow remote working and recording, data management project and relational databases in place (Moor Business project).
Insufficient / inadequate accommodation Storage capacity	Loss of time dedicated to programme management / delivery	2	3	6	Monitor workspace management. Action on accommodation is continuing - room 77 at AH to be retained.
Loss of key personnel: Long term staff sickness	Staff overwork to cover, Programme management and delivery affected	2	2	4	Monitor workload and working time. Robust health and safety practices at work. Staff trained and appropriate skills base to backfill. Adequate resources - Moor Business Project will assist with costings and resource planning.
Failure to plan resources for multiple projects	Project(s) fail to meet delivery objectives	3	1	3	Gateway approval process and project management toolkit in place. Monitoring and communication in conjunction with work planning across portfolio. Issues identified, support put in place.
Lack of PDNPA management and Committee Support	Approval for projects (pre-project set up work time wasted)	3	1	3	Strong lines of communication with senior management and Members. Identify Champion(s). RMT 'pre Committee' process adds robustness.
Failure to obtain project funding	PDNPA Management Plan adversely affected	3	1	3	Maintenance of core programme team. The Moor Business Project will assist funding strategy. Linked/dependent on first item.

Formula used for assessing Risk Rating

Impact		Probability	
1	Insignificant / Negligible	1	Very Unlikely / Rare
2	Moderate	2	Possible
3	Critical / Catastrophic	3	Almost Certain

7 Look Forward – 2018/19

Commitments 2018/19

We will continue to deliver the MoorLIFE 2020 Project and the Private Lands Portfolio. The first (of two) mid-term report and financial claim will be made for the MoorLIFE 2020 Project. Reports and claims continue to be made for the Private Lands Portfolio and the final report and claim for the Community Science Project.

Continue to support our innovative conservation and science programmes through partnership communication vehicles and channels as well as developing campaigns at a regional, national and international level.

Identify and secure communication project and funding streams through new business and programme opportunities. We will seek and harness funds to secure and protect the legacy of the MFFP through further public and landowner engagement.

Seek and aid new partnership ventures to conserve and promote our moorland uplands.

Project Commitments 2018/19

Table 3 Core and Project Funding 2018/19

Contracted/approved	Core funding £	Core funding from projects £	Total core funding £
Operational Partners			
PDNPA	90,000		90,000
Environment Agency	60,000		60,000
Pennine Prospects	2,000		2,000
National Trust	15,000		15,000
RSPB	7,500		7,500
Severn Trent	15,000		15,000
United Utilities	15,000		15,000
Yorkshire Water	15,000		15,000
Sub total	219,500	0	219,500
Project Partners			
HLF		571	571
Sub total	0	571	571
Total	219,500	571	220,071

Pipeline	Core funding £	Core funding from projects £	Total core funding £
Operational Partners			
Derbyshire CC	20,000		20,000
Sub total	20,000	0	20,000
Project Partners			
Sub total		0	0
Total	20,000	0	20,000

Table 4: Projects 2018/19

Projects contracted/ approved	ARP Committee Minute Reference	Anticipated gross expenditure of project work 2018/19 £	Funders
Private Lands	48/13, 38/14	714,545	NE
MoorLIFE 2020	38/15	2,477,038	PDNPA, EU Life, STW, UU, YWS, NT, PP, RSPB
Community Science	39/14	117,148	HLF, EA, NE, NT, STW, UU, YWS
River Etherow Monitoring		18,000	STW, UU, YWS
Working with Partners (note this is max per annum)	06/17	1,500,000	STW, UU, YWS, NT, PP, RSPB
Total		4,826,731	

8 Look forward - Business Development (Expectations)

We will continue to develop relationships with new partners and will use the methods agreed in the Partnership's Business Plan to achieve a balanced budget.

Core Funding

We will continue to engage with core funding partners to establish new Statements of Intent and negotiate core funds / membership fees into the future. In addition the methods laid out in the Business Plan will be implemented to ensure all projects are full cost recovery and contribute at an appropriate level to fund the core support requirements.

Funds will be sought to develop the general infrastructure of the MFFP team, bidding for funds to improve processes and systems of work and infrastructure. This is required to fully expand the capabilities of the team to undertake extensive programmes of work. During 2017/18 we will be pursuing a HLF Resilient Heritage fund bid for this purpose.

Allocating resource to business development is crucial to ensuring we are continually aware of funding opportunities, always have a bidding action in development and always have a pipeline of priorities for funding opportunities within the Operational Plan. Experience has shown that opportunities to develop new projects and bid for new funds arise during the year requiring constant vigilance and a quick response to opportunities which will deliver our vision, aims and objectives.

The team will continue to keep funding opportunities under constant review and will explore all of those which have strong possibilities for funding the Partnership's objectives.

Subsequent Operational Plans agreed by ARP Committee since 2013/14 have proposed bidding to HLF (eg Landscape Partnerships, Heritage Grants). Now having the successful result of the MoorLIFE 2020 bidding, this could provide match funding to set against another large bid and this will be explored during 2017/18. Likely business development work during 2017/18 will be;

- Assisting Defra with an Integrated LIFE Programme bid
- Various catchment based projects in those catchments which are known to be at risk of causing downstream flooding (e.g. Upper Calder, Trawden, Glossop, Derbyshire Derwent)
- Opportunities for PES (Paying for Ecosystem Services) and using the Peatland Carbon Code to realise new income streams
- Making use of MoorLIFE 2020 as a match fund for further bidding

- Bidding and delivering (if successful) to the HLF Resilient Heritage Fund for the Moor Business Project
- Developing further opportunities for all the projects currently being delivered
- Maintaining capacity to rapidly respond to an emerging business opportunity

The aim of the planning is to identify options and costs and develop proposals / bids or continuing our evidence programme of the impact of restoration and land management activities; this is important as many of the biodiversity and ecosystem service benefits will take many years to realise.

9 Monitoring this Operational Plan

We produce a Programme Progress Log four times a year which identifies approvals and financial values of projects - with risks identified through a Red/Amber/Green assessment - and includes brief summaries of progress highlights. Income and Expenditure of the programme team are also monitored by the Partnership's Strategic Management Group at its quarterly meetings.

We update our funding approval records on a monthly basis to take account of the need of probity of the approvals processes of our accountable body, the Peak District National Park Authority.

Reports on individual projects are presented to those individual project steering groups/boards and an overview of the programme finances is undertaken by the Peak District National Park Authority