

STANAGE-NORTH LEES MANAGEMENT PLAN

A SUMMARY OF OUR VISION AND OUR AIMS

Big photo of Stanage

Developed by the Peak District National Park Authority in partnership with user groups, local people and neighbours, represented through Stanage Forum, and on behalf of us all.

The Full Management Plan is available to download at: www.....

This is complemented by an Action Plan which sets out the detail of how we plan to achieve our aims and objectives

VISION

To care for, enjoy and promote understanding of Stanage-North Lees in a sustainable way which respects and enhances wildlife, heritage and landscape for everyone, forever.

- Stanage is a living landscape that values the past and inspires the future
- It feels remote but is accessible and offers recreational activities to the people who love and enjoy it
- We will work in ways which connect people and landscape to the wider world, recognising Stanage's international importance as a recreation hub and accessible wilderness for future generations to cherish
- Financially robust business planning and sound management will under-pin our delivery

Ours to Care For: This expresses the essence of what we are trying to achieve. It represents the great value of this landscape and our collective responsibility for its future. This phrase builds on the National Park Management Plan Vision and on the National Park Authority mission statement.

National Park Management Plan Vision:

'The Peak District: Where beauty, vitality and discovery meet at the heart of the nation'

Mission Statement for the Peak District National Park:

'By inspiring millions of people, together we will protect and care for our National Park for the enjoyment of all.'

At the heart of our management plan is the landscape and people.

In line with the National Park's statutory purposes we will:

- **Manage the landscape to maximise benefits for natural and cultural heritage**
- **Encourage a broad range of user groups and individuals to access and enjoy Stanage-North Lees, to increase their understanding, and to develop a sense of belonging and ownership through care for and involvement in, the National Park.**

Photo of lots of people at Stanage

A Users View of the Spirit of Stanage and North Lees

“Proud it’s mine
Stanage and North Lees
Escape to reality

A place to be at peace, in nature, in a wide open landscape with the sky and air free from clutter.

A place for challenge and adventure and freedom for everyone.

A place to explore, discover and learn.

A place to care for.

Stanage is bigger than any of us. It sits in judgement on any who claim the right to manage it.

Yet it must be managed in order to do justice to its inheritance, to its wildlife, and to people.

It is a public asset which epitomises the value of National Parks and is treasured by its local communities and visitors from further afield

It is an important example of synthesis between conservation, recreation and farming, aspiring to a common vision for the whole.

But there are challenges: how to enjoy it and how to look after it, how to find common cause with others whose enjoyment is perhaps a bit different from yours, how to reach out to those who have yet to discover all it has to offer, how different organisations can work together.

The Management Plan shows how we will respect Stanage – how we will nurture its sense of place progressively, responsibly, sustainably, affordably, for now and for the future, with minimum intervention.

It’s your plan because you, the public, helped to formulate it – and it’s yours to make it work.”

Set against a background photo

LANDSCAPE

We will achieve cost effective management of the landscape at Stanage-North Lees, maximising benefits for natural and cultural heritage whilst enabling greater understanding, involvement and enjoyment.

GEOLOGY & WILDLIFE

Our objectives are to:

1. Maintain the sense of wilderness of the open moor and edge ensuring it remains free of man-made intrusions
2. Bring together the best of traditional farming and modern farm practices to deliver benefits for the natural and historic landscape
3. Increase understanding and enthusiasm for geology recognising it as the foundation of the countryside
4. Collate and update the wildlife records to ensure our management is appropriately targeted
5. Conserve and enhance the quality and diversity of the inter-related wildlife habitats and populations of important species in the context of both climate change and the wider landscape of the Sheffield Moors
6. Enthuse and engage people in the wildlife of Stanage-North Lees through guided walks, appropriate interpretation and social media, aiming to extend understanding, broaden interests and develop care for the countryside
7. Involve a wide range of people (including individuals, community and local naturalist groups, schools and universities) in survey, monitoring, conservation and restoration projects .
8. Engender pride amongst recreational users in the role that they play in the conservation of important species

Photos of ring ouzel, hay meadow, moorland and bluebells

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Our objectives are to:

1. Gain a more thorough understanding of the range and time-depth of historical and archaeological features at Stanage - North Lees through archaeological survey and recording; documentary and other research; excavation and other forms of investigation.
2. Manage the cultural heritage resource to ensure its conservation into the future, not least by bringing together the best of traditional farming and modern farm practices to deliver benefits for the historic landscape.
3. Enthuse and engage people in enjoying the cultural heritage of Stanage - North Lees through guided walks; social media and appropriate interpretation - including a range of popular publications.
4. Involve a wide range of people (e.g. community groups; local and regional societies) in survey, monitoring, conservation, restoration and research projects, providing appropriate training.
5. In achieving these aims, ensure active engagement with local and regional universities and other providers of tertiary education, and with schools.

Photos of Hall, chapel, paper mill and millstone

PEOPLE: RECREATION, ACCESS & VOLUNTEERING

We will encourage a broad range of user groups and individuals to access and enjoy Stanage-North Lees and to develop a sense of belonging and ownership through care for and involvement in, the National Park

RECREATION & ACCESS

Our objectives are to:

1. Welcome and maintain a broad range of recreational users enabling them to benefit from physical well-being, the inherent tranquillity and also from the opportunities for adventure and challenge and self-discovery, alongside the capacity for building self-esteem.
2. Ensure that conflicts between user groups and between the recreational use and the landscape are minimised, recognising that whilst conflicts may not be resolved, Stanage Forum provides us with a process for finding consensus and common values
3. Encourage and support the local community and disadvantaged groups and individuals to access the recreational opportunities at Stanage ensuring that established and new users come to understand and enjoy the importance of the natural and cultural heritage
4. Work with outdoor pursuits providers to provide challenging and sustainable recreational opportunities for people
5. Encourage sustainable transport
6. Facilitate access for all where practical and sustainable and to all areas of interest

Photos of climber, picnic, camping,

VOLUNTEERING

Our objectives are to:

1. Work with and through the Stanage Forum and its steering group recognising them as playing an integral and vital part in the management of Stanage-North Lees
2. Support, encourage and develop Volunteer Rangers to contribute across a range of activities
3. Engage a variety of individuals and groups in practical conservation action aiming to develop specific long-term relationships with Stanage-North Lees and including under-represented and disadvantaged groups and individuals, families and user groups.
4. Engage a variety of groups and individuals in wildlife & cultural heritage survey and monitoring providing training and support as required

Photos of volunteers in action

PEOPLE: EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

We will develop understanding by maximising the educational and interpretative value of Stanage-North Lees, supporting formal educational visits and developing enhanced opportunities for informal learning and increased understanding and enjoyment.

Our objectives are to:

1. Encourage and support formal education
2. Deliver an exciting, varied and engaging suite of events and activities for all
3. Encourage Wild Play and Forest Schools
4. Use the website and social media to develop understanding of the landscape, recreational opportunities, conflicts and their resolution.
5. Through the use of innovative interpretation increase understanding and enjoyment
6. Encourage people to explore, discover, learn and enjoy Stanage in their own way and find their own challenges
7. Work with a range of partners to develop the idea of an annual/biennial Stanage Festival

Photos of guided walk, Heritage Day last year, North Lees through time leaflet, Twitter and facebook 'logos'

PEOPLE: FARMING AND FACILITIES

We will support a farm, accommodation and facilities to deliver and/or contribute to the Vision for Stanage-North Lees

Our objectives are to:

1. Operate a campsite as an integral part of the delivery of the Stanage – North Lees Vision
2. Provide essential facilities for recreational users including car parking, toilets and refreshment concessions, using these opportunities to promote understanding as well as income streams to support these initiatives.
3. Maintain the historic Cruck Barn and East Wing of North Lees Hall as part of a working farm
4. Support a farm business as an integral and essential way of delivering conservation objectives
5. Support on-site accommodation providers – Bell’s Box and North Lees Hall – and develop opportunities with them for promoting understanding and involvement

Photos of farm animals, hay making, YHA vehicles, refreshment concession, N Lees hall

CONNECTIONS

We will ensure that Stanage-North Lees makes connections with people at a local (Hope Valley and Sheffield), regional (Sheffield and wider), national and international level

Our objectives are to:

1. Embed Stanage-North Lees in the local community (including the local schools)
2. Deliver the vision of the Sheffield Moors as the UK's leading model on how the uplands should be managed into the future for people, landscape, cultural heritage and wildlife, together with the other organisations involved in the Sheffield Moors Partnership
3. Encourage a sense of responsible ownership of Stanage-North Lees amongst Sheffield and the wider region.
4. Establish links with disadvantaged and under-represented groups and individuals from Sheffield and other neighbouring areas to encourage and enable them to access and become involved in Stanage-North Lees
5. Develop links with Sheffield as the 'Outdoor City'
6. Establish links with local universities for mutual benefit
7. Enhance and extend the links we have with local and regional natural history, cultural heritage and other specialist interest groups for mutual benefit
8. Enhance the flow of people across the wider landscape looking particularly at issues of sustainable transport and linking rights of way.
9. Act as an ambassador for the National Park with respect to national and international climbing, walking, fell running and mountain biking clubs, promoting the National Park as a destination for sustainable recreation.
10. Demonstrate to all how consensus between potentially conflicting priorities can be achieved without compromising basic principles

Photo of refugee walk?

RESOURCES

We will strive to manage Stanage-North Lees so that it is cost neutral (including the support costs) whilst recognising that we have a statutory duty to conserve the landscape and promote understanding and enjoyment.

Our objectives are to:

1. Increase income generation within the context of the tranquillity of the area and its wilderness characteristics
2. Encourage 'giving' particularly through personal contributions as a way of developing personal involvement and commitment
3. Attract external funding to support our ambitions for high standards of environmental site management and involvement by local people and visitors.
4. Manage the property efficiently and effectively seeking to balance income and costs
5. Work with partner organisations to achieve cost effective outcomes

Photo of Stanage Sticker, recreational user and wildlife picture

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Photo of Stanage with Ours to Care for on it