25

**Liz Pickering**

**From:** Calder, Michael [redacted]
**Sent:** 24 March 2011 17:50
**To:** Liz Pickering
**Cc:** Woollams, Penny; Smart, Phillip; Fuller, James
**Subject:** Mid Devon Green Infrastructure Strategy - Initial Consultation
**Attachments:** our_land_-_final__low_res_[1].pdf

Dear Liz,

Thank you for notifying the National Trust that work has started on a Green Infrastructure Strategy for Mid Devon.

The Trust's ownership in Mid Devon includes Knightshayes, Old Blundells, Buzzards (land either side of the River Dart from Groubear Bridge south to Worthy Bridge), and the very northern edge of the Killerton estate.

The Trust supports and promotes the multi-functional use of land as set out in the attached document: *Our Land: for ever, for everyone (*National Trust; 2010). It has also identified a key priority over the next few years as getting more people enjoying the outdoors more often and closer to nature. This can not only be positive for conservation of the natural environment but there is a growing body of evidence showing that for those who take part such contact with nature has positive impacts on everything from physical and mental health to social development and community cohesion.

The Trust would welcome the opportunity at some point of exploring the possibility of projects being developed in relation to its land, as part of the Green Infrastructure Strategy. As Knightshayes may have the best potential in that regard, Penny Woollams, the Property Manager at Knightshayes, would be the main point of contact.

The Trust would also of course like to be formally consulted on a draft document, to which I should be notified.

We look forward to hearing from you further.

Kind regards

Michael

Michael Calder
Planning Adviser
**National Trust**
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Killerton House
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**From:** Liz Pickering [mailto:LPickering@middevon.gov.uk]
**Sent:** 17 February 2011 09:36
**To:** Biodiversity SW (Naomi Brookes); CABE (Anne Jaluzot); CABE (Paul Lavelle); CPRE (Wendy Lutley); Devon Tourist Board (Polly Bale); English Heritage (Liz Clare); English Heritage (Ross Simmonds); Forestry Commission (Peter Harrison); Forestry Commission (Rob Spence); GreenSpace SW (Roger Gates); Housing

National Trust

# Our land: for ever, for everyone

# For ever, for everyone

**Land is fundamental to everything we do. It provides our food and energy, forms our landscapes and is the foundation for our towns and cities. But with a changing climate and dwindling natural resources, how can we make sure that land can deliver everything we need in the future?**

As custodian of 254,000 hectares of countryside and over 700 miles of coastline, the National Trust has a clear part to play in helping society address this challenge. We are responsible for taking care of some of our nation's most special places, from fields and streams, mountains and moorlands, to woods and heathland, and to pass them on for future generations to enjoy.

Our goal is sustainable land management. This means meeting society's needs today while keeping land and its resources in good condition for ever, for everyone. So at the centre of our vision is the aspiration to reconnect people with land – so they can recognise its true value and have a role in caring for it.

This report explains our approach to managing land in order to protect carbon, care for wildlife, safeguard water supplies and reconnect people with land. We know that we have a lot more to do, and the report includes our commitments for future action.

There are also recommendations for Government and land managers, as progress depends on partnership working, policy reform and smarter use of public money to bring much greater benefit for people today, and in the future.

# Land matters

## What does land actually do for us? The answer is – a great deal!

Land is not just for food production, it is also used to produce fuel, timber and other materials, it provides space for development and energy generation, clean water to drink, room for flood-water, acts as carbon storage, helps biodiversity, and provides our landscape, cultural history, and green space for recreation and exercise.

As the demands of a growing world population increase, and the area of productive land declines (because of land degradation, soil erosion and sea level rise), meeting these demands is becoming more and more challenging. We therefore need to think carefully about how land should best be used to deliver the most public benefit, protect precious natural resources, and enable land managers to make a living – in essence, how we can manage our land more sustainably.

For practical purposes we have identified seven basic functions of land (see box). It is important to recognise that all land fulfils most of these functions all of the time. Land management decisions, therefore, should not be a matter of deciding which one of these things we want any particular piece of land to do, but about how we can find the best use, which respects them all.

Some types of land, of course, fulfil some functions better than others. For example our mountains and moorlands might be particularly important for landscape quality, public access and water catchment, with carbon storage playing a trump card on the deep peats. On the other hand, grade 1 agricultural land may be best suited to growing vegetables (sustainably, of course).

In order to decide how best to use land we need to develop a clearer understanding of land capability. This means making judgements about the relative importance of the different functions of any given area of land.

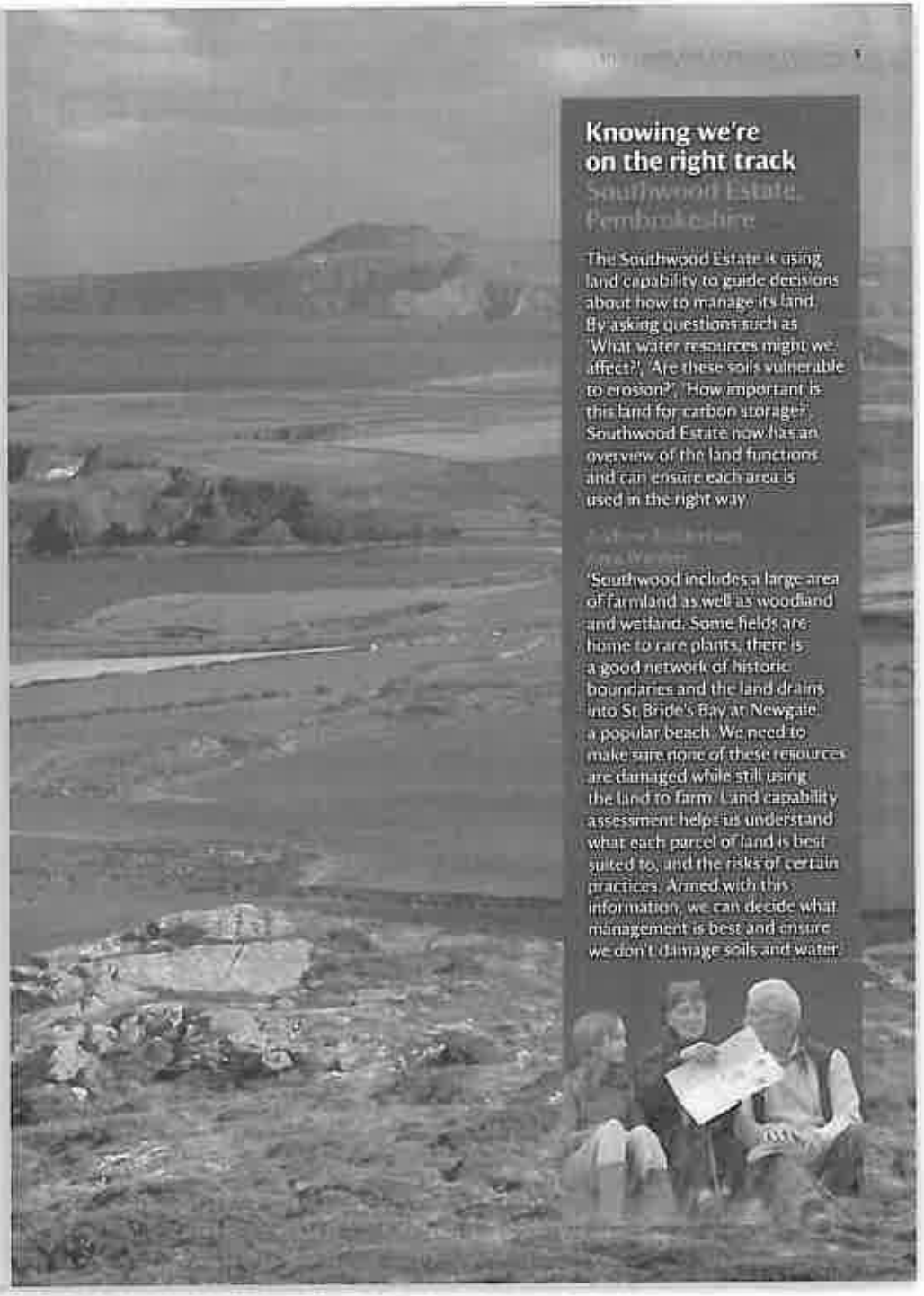
To make these judgements it is important to have a clear understanding of the different natural resources of individual areas, and the risks and opportunities associated with them. This may just be a case of asking the right questions, such as: 'Are there vulnerable water resources nearby?'; 'Are the soils particularly susceptible to compaction or erosion?'; 'Is it a carbon hotspot?' But the thought process can be greatly enhanced by effective risk mapping to highlight constraints that might limit land management options.

In the long term, our food and energy security depends on environmental security. Unless we nurture our natural resources we will have no hope of meeting our long-term need for any of the 'products' we expect from land.

Over the next ten years the National Trust will take a holistic view of our land, using land capability assessment to help our managers decide on the best land management options. We will pioneer new techniques, provide high-quality advice to our staff and tenants and demonstrate best practice.

### Functions of land

- **Space for development**
  *settlements, buildings, infrastructure*
- **Production**
  *food, timber, fibre, materials, renewable energy*
- **Water cycling**
  *catchment, filtration, flood control, coastal processes*
- **Carbon storage**
  *stores, sinks and emissions from peat, soils and vegetation*
- **Biodiversity**
  *habitats, species, genetic diversity*
- **Landscape and cultural history**
  *scenic beauty, historic landscapes, cultural heritage*
- **Recreation and inspiration**
  *physical exercise, discovery, contact with nature*



### Knowing we're on the right track

**Southwood Estate, Pembrokeshire**

The Southwood Estate is using land capability to guide decisions about how to manage its land. By asking questions such as 'What water resources might we affect?', 'Are these soils vulnerable to erosion?', 'How important is this land for carbon storage?' Southwood Estate now has an overview of the land functions and can ensure each area is used in the right way.

'Southwood includes a large area of farmland as well as woodland and wetland. Some fields are home to rare plants, there is a good network of historic boundaries and the land drains into St Bride's Bay at Newgate, a popular beach. We need to make sure none of these resources are damaged while still using the land to farm. Land capability assessment helps us understand what each parcel of land is best suited to, and the risks of certain practices. Armed with this information, we can decide what management is best and ensure we don't damage soils and water.

# Harvesting, not mining

## The UK is rich in productive land, has a forgiving climate and abundant natural resources. But are we frittering this wealth away?

Finite and fragile resources need careful and enlightened management to conserve them for the long term.

The price of cheap food may be too high; we need an agricultural industry that can sustain the natural resources it relies upon. To do this, it's vital that we measure the benefits from land in terms of all its outputs, including biodiversity, landscape quality, carbon storage and other ecosystem services, as well as in terms of the volume or value of produce.

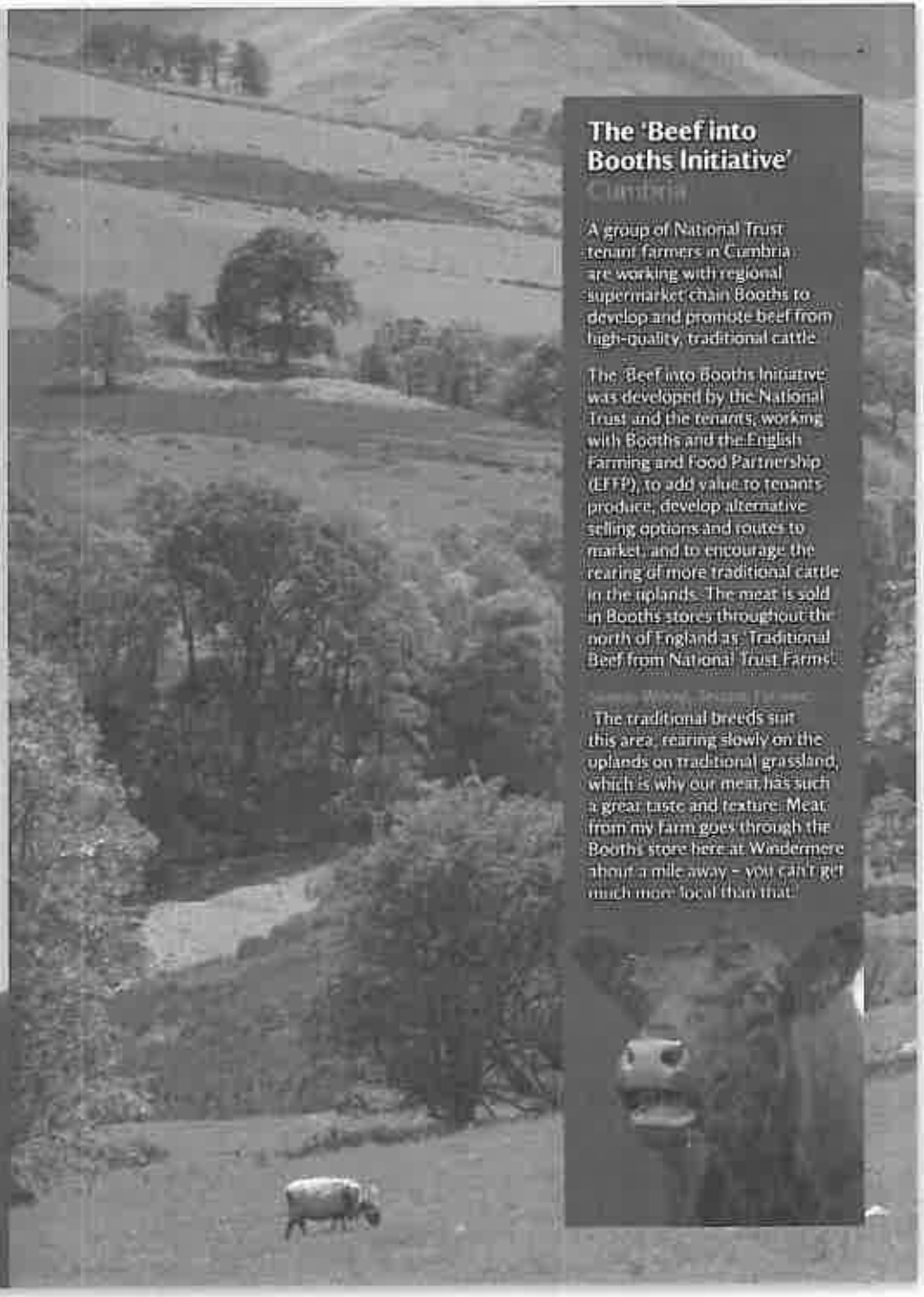
We need to think differently about how to recognise and secure these benefits. Agri-environment funding (particularly the higher-level schemes) continues to play an important part, but, as highlighted in The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity study (TEEB),* there are real opportunities to create markets for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

New markets for catchment management, land-based carbon and conservation credits have the potential to align public and private investment priorities to deliver a more sustainable approach to land management.

It's not just about food production though – forestry, renewable energy and other land-based industries contribute to the economic health of the countryside and viability of rural communities. High environmental standards will be needed if land is to continue to deliver financial benefit into the future.

Over the next ten years the National Trust will help our land managers find new sources of income to support more sustainable land management. We will explore funding through public bodies, new markets for ecosystem services, and through our own commercial activity including product licensing, procurement and corporate partnerships.

'Our vision is for land management that produces what we need with low environmental impact; management that protects and safeguards natural resources – nurturing and harvesting them, not mining or wasting them.'



### The 'Beef into Booths Initiative'

Cumbria

A group of National Trust tenant farmers in Cumbria are working with regional supermarket chain Booths to develop and promote beef from high-quality, traditional cattle.

The 'Beef into Booths Initiative' was developed by the National Trust and the tenants, working with Booths and the English Farming and Food Partnership (EFFP), to add value to tenants' produce, develop alternative selling options and routes to market, and to encourage the rearing of more traditional cattle in the uplands. The meat is sold in Booths stores throughout the north of England as 'Traditional Beef from National Trust Farms'.

'The traditional breeds suit this area, rearing slowly on the uplands on traditional grassland, which is why our meat has such a great taste and texture. Meat from my farm goes through the Booths' store here at Windermere about a mile away – you can't get much more local than that.'

# Carbon positive conservation

## Land is a major store of carbon and its role in reducing carbon dioxide ($CO_2$) emissions must not be underestimated

Soils and plants absorb and release greenhouse gases. This is a natural cycle, but its balance is affected by the ways we use land. We want to manage land to increase its carbon stores to help tackle climate change while supporting production and protecting the natural environment.

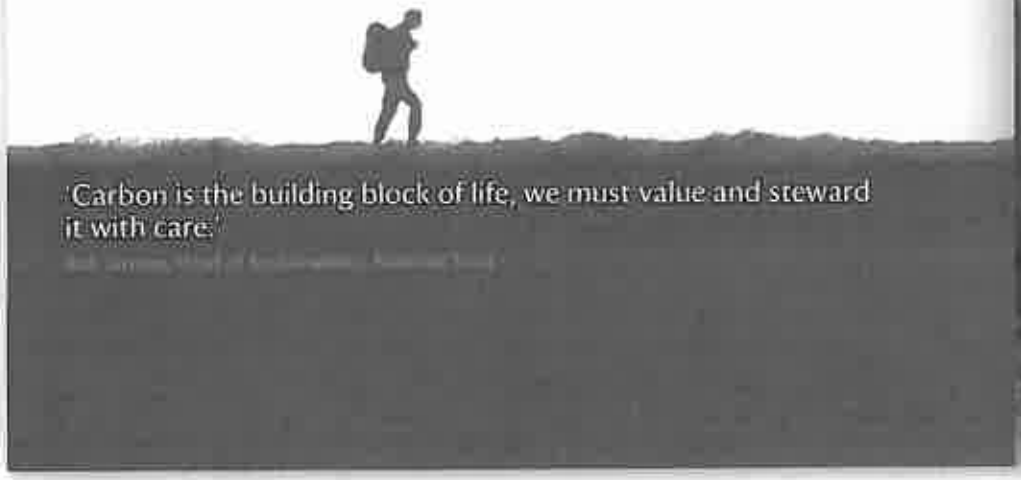
Peatland soils hold the highest densities of carbon and are hugely important. Other soils may hold less carbon per square metre, but they cover far greater areas of the country and have the greatest potential for increased carbon storage in land. The carbon holding in the Trust's land is about two per cent of the UK's total store, and of that we estimate that 97 per cent is in soils and three per cent in vegetation.

Increasing organic matter in soils not only helps to lock up carbon but it also has major benefits for biodiversity, natural fertility, water-holding capacity, and resistance to erosion. Land productivity is increased, flood risk reduced and wildlife thrives. All too often though, inappropriate land management such as intensive farming, burning and drainage can damage the health of soil and its ability to store carbon.

Exhausted, drained and depleted soil is unable to restore itself in the short term. It takes time and intervention to recover. Land managers need to be more aware of the important carbon stores they are looking after. We need a national campaign to promote the carbon-holding capacity of soil, with advice based on practical experience, and incentives to maintain and restore soil health.

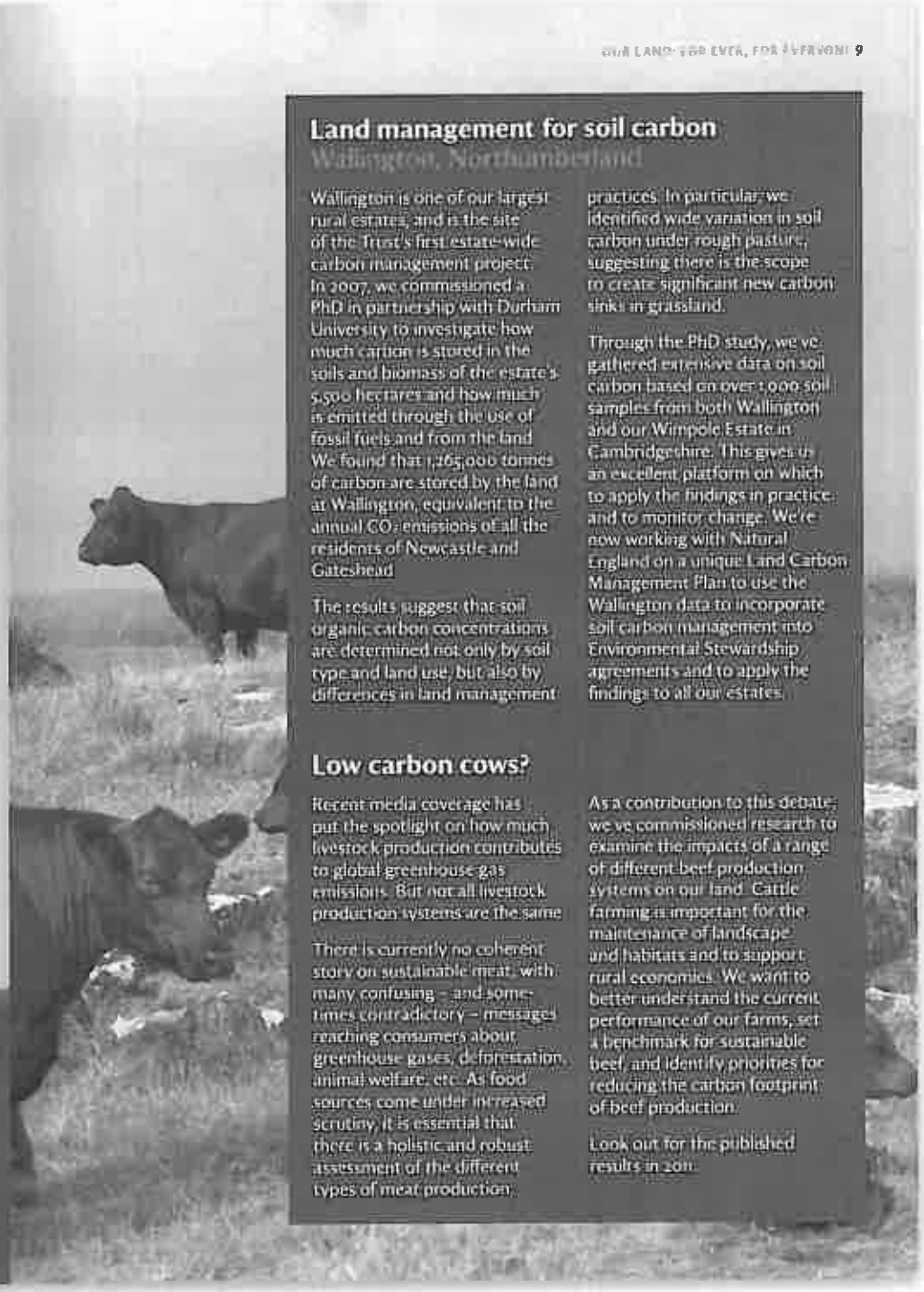
Our current food production systems are utterly dependent on fossil fuels. Healthy, carbon-rich soil reduces the need for fertilisers and chemicals derived from oil and gas. With fuel prices set to increase, it makes economic sense to put the environment first, but it is a long-term approach.

Over the next ten years the National Trust will ensure carbon stewardship is a high priority, seeking to put our carbon accounts back in the black. We will strengthen our work with our farm tenants to enable them to deliver – and benefit from – good carbon stewardship, with benefits for both our long-term assets and their business viability.



Carbon is the building block of life, we must value and steward it with care.





### Land management for soil carbon

Wallington, Northumberland

Wallington is one of our largest rural estates, and is the site of the Trust's first estate-wide carbon management project. In 2007, we commissioned a PhD in partnership with Durham University to investigate how much carbon is stored in the soils and biomass of the estate's 5,500 hectares and how much is emitted through the use of fossil fuels and from the land. We found that 1,265,000 tonnes of carbon are stored by the land at Wallington, equivalent to the annual $CO_2$ emissions of all the residents of Newcastle and Gateshead.

The results suggest that soil organic carbon concentrations are determined not only by soil type and land use, but also by differences in land management practices. In particular, we identified wide variation in soil carbon under rough pasture, suggesting there is the scope to create significant new carbon sinks in grassland.

Through the PhD study, we've gathered extensive data on soil carbon based on over 1,000 soil samples from both Wallington and our Wimpole Estate in Cambridgeshire. This gives us an excellent platform on which to apply the findings in practice, and to monitor change. We're now working with Natural England on a unique Land Carbon Management Plan to use the Wallington data to incorporate soil carbon management into Environmental Stewardship agreements and to apply the findings to all our estates.

### Low carbon cows?

Recent media coverage has put the spotlight on how much livestock production contributes to global greenhouse gas emissions. But not all livestock production systems are the same.

There is currently no coherent story on sustainable meat, with many confusing – and sometimes contradictory – messages reaching consumers about greenhouse gases, deforestation, animal welfare, etc. As food sources come under increased scrutiny, it is essential that there is a holistic and robust assessment of the different types of meat production.

As a contribution to this debate, we've commissioned research to examine the impacts of a range of different beef production systems on our land. Cattle farming is important for the maintenance of landscape and habitats and to support rural economies. We want to better understand the current performance of our farms, set a benchmark for sustainable beef, and identify priorities for reducing the carbon footprint of beef production.

Look out for the published results in 2011.

# Thinking big about wildlife

## Nature is not, and should not be, confined to reserves or designated areas

Wildlife is an integral part of the world around us and lives in all land types – our farms, woods, open spaces, coastline, gardens and buildings. It matters in both town and country.

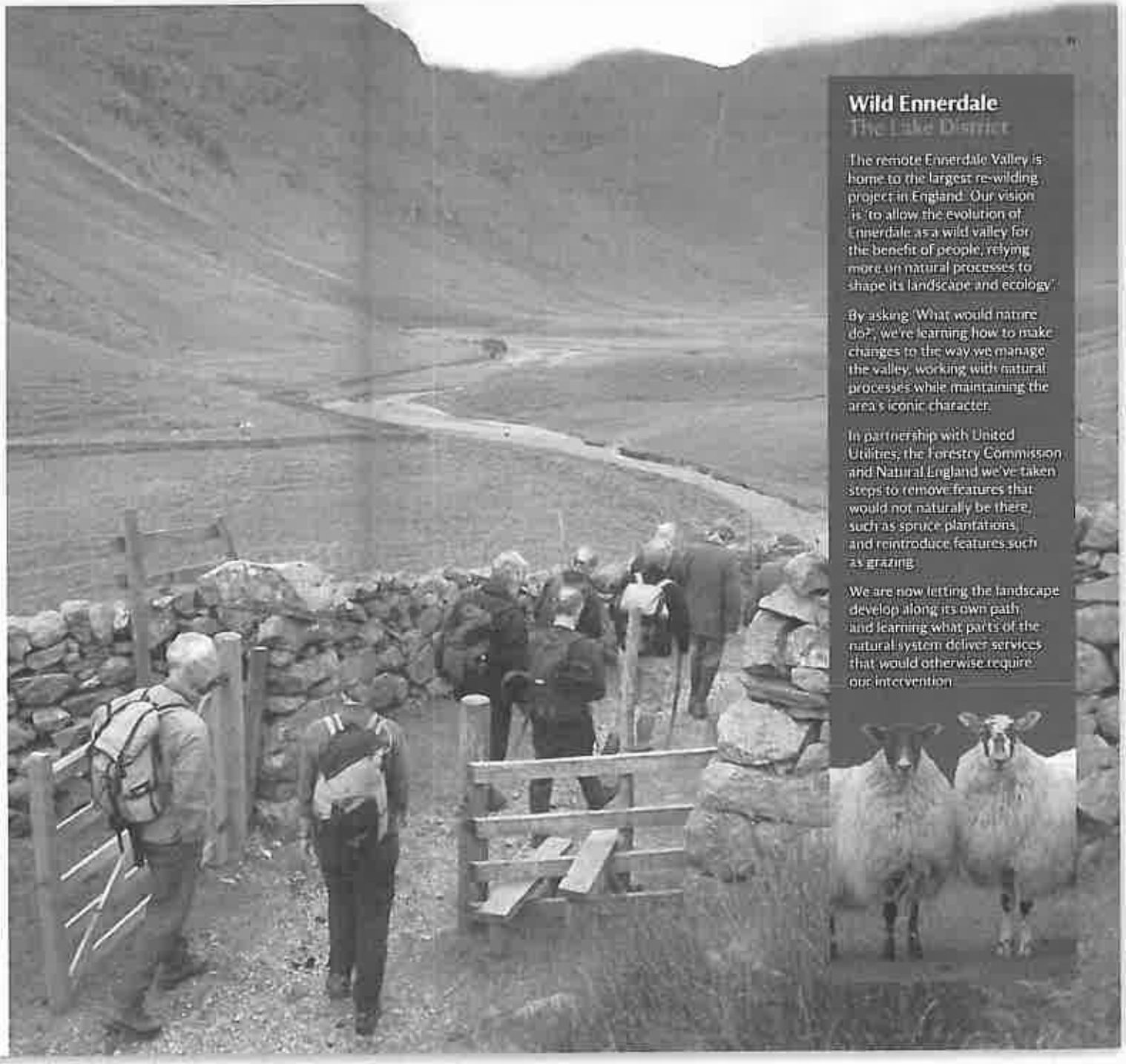
In order to overcome the threats of fragmentation and isolation of wildlife habitats, and the impacts of pollution and climate change, it is essential that we think about the interests of wildlife on all land, however it is used.

The quality and scale of designated habitats will remain important, but the ability of the wider countryside to support wildlife and allow it to move and flex at a landscape scale will be crucial for the survival of many species. Movement is essential for reproduction, migration, adaptation to climate change and recovery from localised disasters.

Working at a landscape level requires co-operation between managers, organisations and communities with all their diverse interests. We need a culture of looking beyond our own boundaries to understand the wider impacts of what we do and to look for opportunities for collaboration.

It's time to look at the land using a nature map, a climate compass and a partnership perspective.

Over the next ten years the National Trust will scale up our efforts to protect wildlife. We will work with other land managers, organisations and communities to create landscapes where wildlife has space to move. We will make space for nature on all our land.



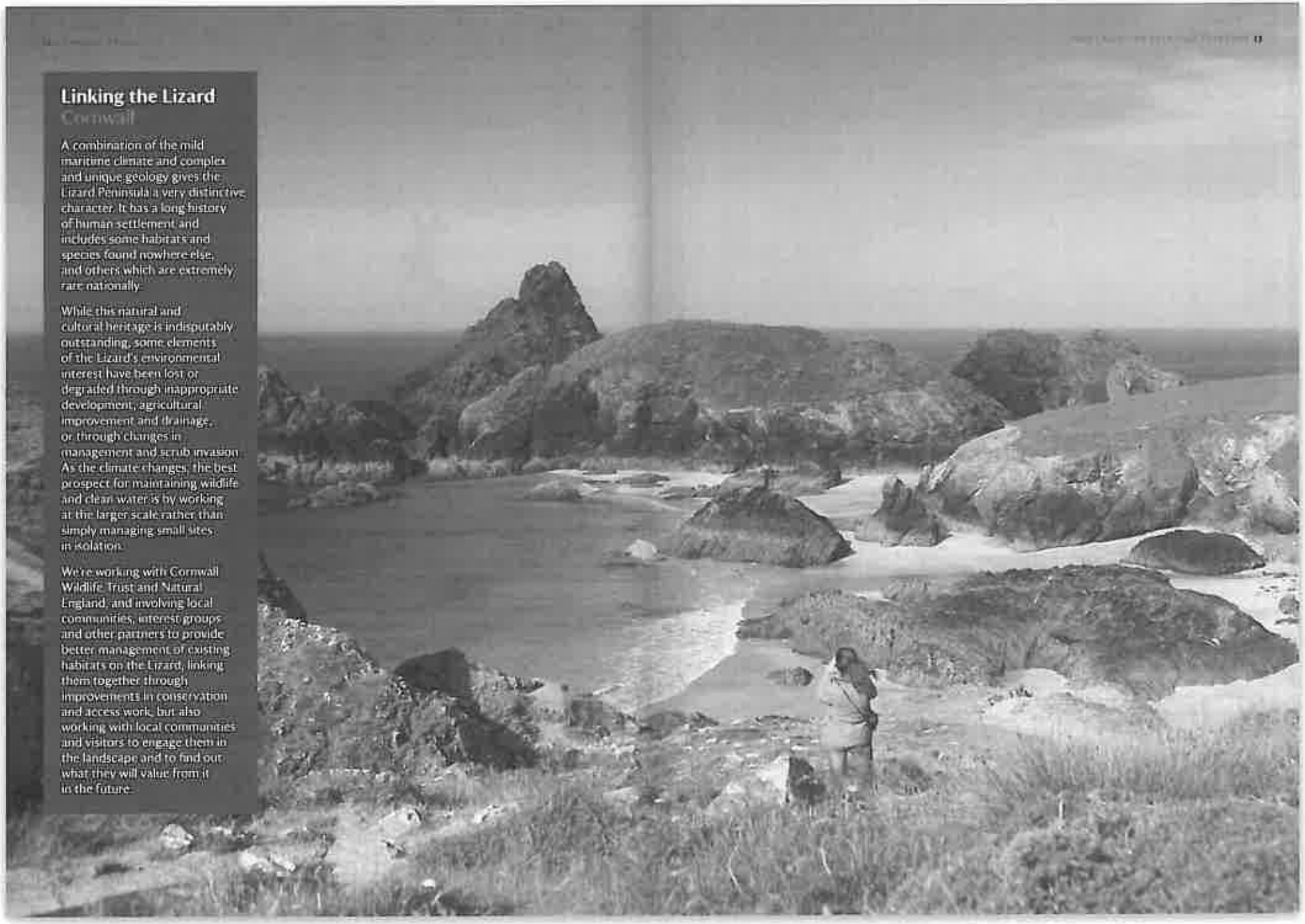
### Wild Ennerdale
The Lake District

The remote Ennerdale Valley is home to the largest re-wilding project in England. Our vision is 'to allow the evolution of Ennerdale as a wild valley for the benefit of people, relying more on natural processes to shape its landscape and ecology'.

By asking 'What would nature do?', we're learning how to make changes to the way we manage the valley, working with natural processes while maintaining the area's iconic character.

In partnership with United Utilities, the Forestry Commission and Natural England we've taken steps to remove features that would not naturally be there, such as spruce plantations, and reintroduce features such as grazing.

We are now letting the landscape develop along its own path and learning what parts of the natural system deliver services that would otherwise require our intervention.



## Linking the Lizard
### Cornwall

A combination of the mild maritime climate and complex and unique geology gives the Lizard Peninsula a very distinctive character. It has a long history of human settlement and includes some habitats and species found nowhere else, and others which are extremely rare nationally.

While this natural and cultural heritage is indisputably outstanding, some elements of the Lizard's environmental interest have been lost or degraded through inappropriate development, agricultural improvement and drainage, or through changes in management and scrub invasion. As the climate changes, the best prospect for maintaining wildlife and clean water is by working at the larger scale rather than simply managing small sites in isolation.

We're working with Cornwall Wildlife Trust and Natural England, and involving local communities, interest groups and other partners to provide better management of existing habitats on the Lizard, linking them together through improvements in conservation and access work, but also working with local communities and visitors to engage them in the landscape and to find out what they will value from it in the future.

# Managing water from source to sea

## Landscape-scale partnership working is also essential to avoid competition for water and to manage flood risk more effectively at a catchment level

Co-operation will be required all along the water course – from source to sea – to ensure that water quality and flow is maintained.

The impact of land management practices on water quality will have to be carefully considered if we are to meet the standards required by the Water Framework Directive. Simple land management practices such as buffer zones can filter harmful pollutants such as nitrates, keeping watercourses clean and extending wildlife interest.

The restoration of wetlands and natural river systems should be encouraged in order to cut down on the amount of hard engineering needed to manage water, which often just shifts the problem downstream rather than solving it. Both wildlife and people would benefit from this 'go with the flow' approach. Land use planning needs to take account of the extent of current and future flood plains, as well as the longer-term availability of water, especially in drought-prone areas such as the south-east of England.

The coast is an immensely dynamic environment. Sea level rise and climate change are forecast to increase the scale and pace of coastal change. As a result we face some difficult choices in managing this change, and need to make well-informed decisions that stand the test of time. Learning from experience, our policy now favours adaptation, to give us time and space to change with the coast and work with the forces of nature.

Over the next ten years the National Trust will pioneer new ways of working with natural processes to manage water from source to sea. We will reduce our use of water, and inspire our supporters to do the same.

'There is significant potential for measures to pay farmers and land managers for providing "water services", such as storage of water on flood plains, wetland restoration and the use of buffer strips to reduce pollution. Such measures are often cheaper than "end of pipe" solutions too.'

Graeme Lymbery, Water Manager, National Trust

### Investing at source

Kinder Scout, Derbyshire

Since 2009 Ofwat has allowed water companies to invest in areas of catchment they do not own themselves, where this would protect water quality. This marked a historic change in the way that water resources are cared for, enabling quality problems to be tackled at source and reducing the need for costly 'end of pipe' treatment of drinking water.

We're now working with the water company United Utilities to restore the Kinder Reservoir catchment in the Peak District. This project will not only improve water quality, but also help lock carbon in peat and restore important wildlife habitats. We've accessed several different sources of funding to deliver these benefits. United Utilities funding has been matched with agri-environment support.

### Investment in flood risk reduction

Holnicote Estate, Somerset

In 2008, we commissioned a review of evidence from existing research which concluded that for small river catchments (typical of 97 per cent of England and Wales), land management has a significant impact upon run-off and can be used as part of an integrated approach to flood management and defence.

We're now testing this at our Holnicote Estate on Exmoor. The project, supported by Defra and the Environment Agency, aims to show how land management can be used to alleviate flood risk and to deliver wider benefits, including improved biodiversity and water quality, carbon stewardship, public access and landscape quality.

Working with our tenant farmers throughout the Aller and Horner catchments, the project will introduce land management changes to make space for water, holding it in the landscape so it is released slowly following periods of rain. Work will include restoration of the moorland wetlands, new woodland creation, the restoration of water meadows and the creation of new coastal wetlands.

The project will cost in the region of £900,000 over five years. By far the largest part of that cost is the monitoring needed to measure the benefits achieved. The proposed land use changes themselves cost relatively little in relation to the wide range of advantages they will provide, and just a fraction of the funds needed to build hard flood defences to protect the villages

# Reconnecting people with land

## All of this illustrates just how dependent our food and energy security is on environmental security

But, in turn, environmental security depends on people – people's willingness to act responsibly and live sustainably. This is probably the biggest challenge of all. Unless we can lead people to understand the importance of land and everything it does for us, and unless we can get them to care about its vulnerability, we won't be able to meet any of the other challenges on any significant scale.

The innate affinity that people have with the natural world can encourage active participation in caring for our environment. Natural landscapes provide boundless opportunities for enjoyment, exploration and inspiration. Positive action benefits both the environment and those who take part.

There is a growing body of evidence showing that contact with nature has positive impacts on everything from physical and mental health to social development and community cohesion. For example, Jules Pretty and Jo Barton of the University of Essex were recently able to show the positive effects of nature on human mental health, with just five minutes with nature leading to a significant improvement in self-esteem.*

By putting the connection of people with nature at the heart of land management strategies, we can not only lay solid foundations for the conservation of the natural environment, but also generate significant cost savings for the NHS, enhance the effectiveness of our education system, and even help promote the Big Society.

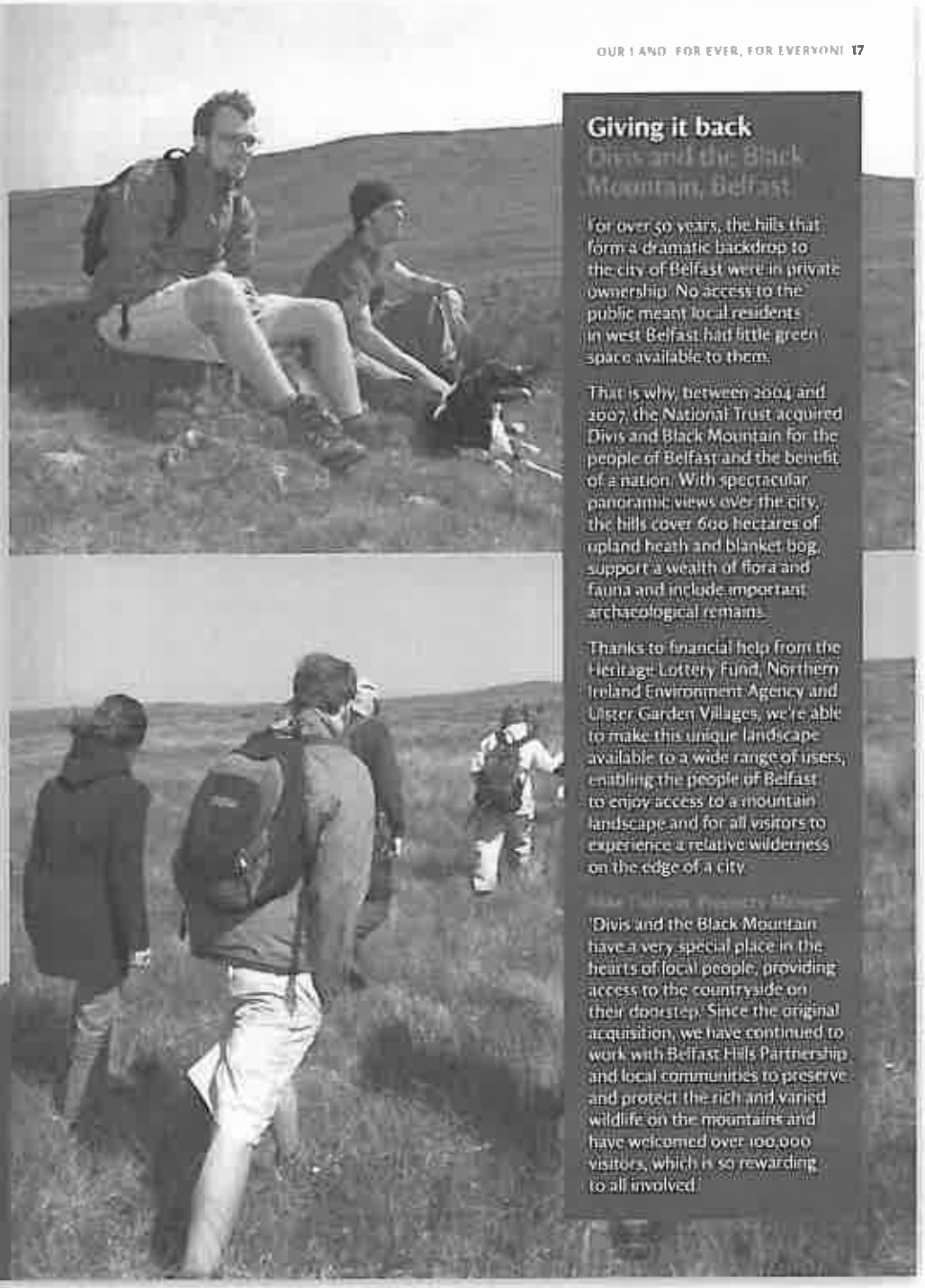
If we want to encourage people to care, we've got to make them welcome. Opportunities for access and involvement must be encouraged by land managers, Government and local people alike. Whoever we are, we feel more strongly about places we can relate to.

Confidence fostered in children, whether going out with their family or being taken on school visits, can lead to a lifelong sense of belonging and ownership of a place, a view, and the wildlife there. We need to let people know from an early age that our land is their inheritance.

Over the next ten years the National Trust will aim to inspire everyone to spend more time outdoors. We will work to help more people enjoy our land, introduce it to those who don't use it, and provide uplifting experiences for those that do. We will promote public access for health, well-being and lifelong learning.

'Children are spending 60 per cent less time in nature than their parents did at the same age.'





## Giving it back

### Divis and the Black Mountain, Belfast

For over 50 years, the hills that form a dramatic backdrop to the city of Belfast were in private ownership. No access to the public meant local residents in west Belfast had little green space available to them.

That is why, between 2004 and 2007, the National Trust acquired Divis and Black Mountain for the people of Belfast and the benefit of a nation. With spectacular panoramic views over the city, the hills cover 600 hectares of upland heath and blanket bog, support a wealth of flora and fauna and include important archaeological remains.

Thanks to financial help from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Northern Ireland Environment Agency and Ulster Garden Villages, we're able to make this unique landscape available to a wide range of users, enabling the people of Belfast to enjoy access to a mountain landscape and for all visitors to experience a relative wilderness on the edge of a city.

'Divis and the Black Mountain have a very special place in the hearts of local people, providing access to the countryside on their doorstep. Since the original acquisition, we have continued to work with Belfast Hills Partnership and local communities to preserve and protect the rich and varied wildlife on the mountains and have welcomed over 100,000 visitors, which is so rewarding to all involved.'

## Growing together

### Lytes Cary, Somerset

This new allotment site has helped to bring a community together, reconnecting people with the land and giving them a space in the outdoors to learn and to grow – and they are open for visitors to explore.

Local groups, including volunteer working parties, school groups and an RAF squadron took on the major task of creating the plots. Funding through the Defra 'Eat into Green Living' project, as well as the Big Lottery Fund and South Somerset District Council, also helped to make the vision a reality.

The 40 plots support about 50 regular growers, experienced and novices alike. A further 200 people have also benefited through organised visits and group activities such as monthly produce swaps, open to all to exchange vegetables, eggs, jams, chutneys and plants. Workshops are also held on such topics as water conservation and practical cookery, to help people learn new skills, socialise and have fun. A regular newsletter keeps everyone up to date with what's happening.

'It's been amazing how the allotments have brought people and the land together, reaching out to the community. There are people up there who live next door to each other but had never spoken as neighbours. Now, as growers, they're on first-name terms, sharing land and growing food together.'

# Our recommendations

The way we manage land can help us address many of the most serious challenges facing the UK, from climate change and food security to obesity and community cohesion.

As the Government develops its White Paper on the natural environment, we're setting out our vision for the future of land based on our experience of managing 254,000 hectares of countryside and over 700 miles of coastline, including some of the UK's most treasured places.

We want to see land managed in a way that protects carbon, cares for wildlife and safeguards water. We've put people at the heart of our vision because getting more people into the outdoors and actively involved in the management of land through initiatives like the Big Society is the best way to secure its future.

But Government has an important role too, in making it easier for land managers to deliver public benefit, and ensuring they are rewarded for doing so. We need to see a shift away from short-term goals, and towards a more sustainable outlook, so that we can pass on a richer, healthier natural environment to future generations.

We are, of course, living through times of financial stringency. But there is no better time to make wise use of resources – to deliver more creatively, effectively and efficiently, and invest public money in ways that bring much greater benefit for ever, for everyone.

We recommend the following areas of policy reform:

## Reconnect people and land

To help people make a deep connection with nature to foster ongoing value, care and support for the natural environment we need to:

- Include requirements for outdoor learning in the National Curriculum, and provide training and guidance for teachers so they are confident in running outdoor visits and activities.
- Promote green exercise as part of the NHS preventative health care strategy.
- Use the Big Society initiative and local planning frameworks to empower local communities to work, with professional support, on improving their environment.

## Think big, act locally

To ensure the optimal use of land and natural resources we need to:

- Work at a landscape scale with neighbours and partners.
- Develop a national strategic framework for land to facilitate an integrated approach, establish ambition and inspire local action.
- Establish a coherent set of policy objectives for land management, to cover biodiversity, carbon, soil, water, air, landscape and social goals alongside food, fuel and fibre production.
- Establish mechanisms for positive planning, encompassing all aspects of land use/management, which engage individuals and communities in the decisions that will shape their areas and inspire them to take action to improve their local environment.

## Develop environmental markets

To reflect the value of all the services that land managers provide we need to:

- Find new ways of supporting the environmental benefits that land managers provide, through assurance schemes, creating markets for catchment management, land-based carbon and conservation credits.
- Adopt the Ecosystem Services Framework throughout Government departments, including revision of the UK Treasury's Green Book (which provides guidance on project evaluation and appraisal).

## Continue agriculture policy reform

To ensure that the CAP delivers efficiently on clearly defined public policy objectives we need to:

- Reform the CAP to create a new policy framework aimed at delivering sustainable land management, covering agriculture, forestry and other rural land uses.
- Adopt a principle of 'public money for public goods' across all payments to land managers, moving to a contractual basis for the receipt of public support.
- Focus on delivery of targets in conjunction with ecosystem management and recovery.
- Incentivise climate-friendly farming, such as increasing organic matter in soils.
- Shift significant monies from Pillar I of CAP to Pillar II to fund incentive schemes and support one-off costs of transforming farming practice.

## Invest in research and advice to land managers

To improve how we interpret and apply scientific research into climate change, carbon management and the impacts of different farming practices we need to:

- Evaluate where there are market failures in research and development and target public funding to address these.
- Combine social science and technical research with practical examples.
- Provide clear advice and guidance to land managers on preferred management practices and options.
- Work with land management networks and end users to develop farmer-friendly communications.

## Encourage carbon-friendly management

To ensure that land management and land use are used most effectively to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change, we need to:

- Launch a national campaign promoting the carbon-holding capacity of soil, with advice based on practical experience, and incentives to maintain and restore soil health.
- Develop tools to help land managers better understand the impact of different land use options.
- Change the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) process under the Kyoto Protocol to provide an agreed method for accounting for land management in national greenhouse gas reporting.



# Land and the National Trust

The National Trust cares for 254,000 hectares of land in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, including some of the nation's most treasured countryside – large areas of mountain and moorland, traditional lowland estates, more than 700 miles of coastline, nature reserves and many iconic and culturally important landscapes. In total, 45 per cent of Trust land is within National Parks and 27 per cent in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Our land is owned for people. Founder of the National Trust, Octavia Hill, saw our land holding as 'open air sitting rooms'. We host an estimated 100 million visits each year to our open countryside.

Our land responsibility is for ever. Most of our land is inalienable and held in perpetuity for the benefit of the nation. It can never be sold or compulsorily purchased without the approval of Parliament.

Our land management involves the care of a working environment upon which many people depend to make their living. Over 90 per cent of our land is used for production, and we have over 1,500 farm tenants.

Our land supports a rich diversity of wildlife – 40 per cent of our land is designated as nationally important for nature.

Our land is important for water – 43 per cent of all land in England and Wales drains to the boundary of a National Trust property.

Our land... for ever, for everyone.


If you require this information in alternative formats, please telephone **020 7799 4541** or email **externalaffairs@nationaltrust.org.uk**

**www.nationaltrust.org.uk**

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