

## Lancashire Wildlife Trust

### DRAFT Peatlands Business Plan – 2019-2024

#### Vision:

The Trust will take a leading role in conserving and restoring peatlands in its area, establishing best practice in their management, promoting their benefits and working with others to influence wider policies for their protection.

#### Aspirations:

- We will improve peatland sites
- We will strengthen the peatland network through creating targetted buffer zones, links, stepping stones and corridors
- We will improve our understanding and sharing of best practice site management for wildlife and carbon
- We will increase awareness and support for our peatland work and work effectively with partners to maximise delivery
- We will seek and support new approaches to sustainable funding of peatland management
- We will support species reintroduction work

#### Action Plan:

Key Strand	Key Players	Actions / Timescales	Who else should be involved?
<b>1. Financing the Strategy</b> a) Secure new funding streams b) Expand Carbon Capture scheme c) Explore other new funding streams	<b>Sponsor: Mick</b> <b>Involved:</b> <b>Jo; Lindsay; Daveen; Martyn;</b> <b>Mike;</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deliver Defra Peatland fund project</li><li>• Finalise the Chat Moss project</li></ul>	Lancs Peat Partnership; Natural England, EA

<p>e.g. biodiversity net gain; natural capital investment; habitat and carbon banking; carbon offsetting; Peatland Code; Landfill Tax</p> <p>d) Donations</p> <p>e) Grants, appeals</p> <p>f) Look at how can support surrounding land-owners</p> <p>g) Get support for projects from Investment Readiness Fund</p> <p>h) Deliver existing projects/funded work</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply for funding to EFF for Lancashire Peatland Initiative – June 2018</li> <li>• Apply to Interreg for funding – October 2018</li> <li>• Pursue Highways England EDF bid – 2018/19</li> <li>• Endangered Landscapes fund - 2019</li> <li>• Other opportunities – 2019</li> <li>• Further promotion Carbon Capture scheme – 2019</li> <li>• Defra replacement environmental land management payments?</li> <li>• Follow up GM Natural</li> </ul>	
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		Capital Investment Plan	
<p><b>2) Acquisitions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to acquire high value sites where practicable for restoration</li> <li>• Acquire land surrounding existing sites to provide buffer zones and linkages, where possible</li> <li>• Robust and rational system for prioritisation</li> <li>• Bring newly acquired sites into best practice management</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sponsor: Mick</b></p>	<p><b>Actions / Timescales</b></p> <p>Costed work programmes for each site (LWM, Winmarleigh)</p>	<p><b>Who else should be involved?</b></p> <p>NE</p>
<p><b>3) Best Practice Site Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of water levels on owned sites</li> <li>• Active vegetation management – securing plant supply</li> <li>• Ensure good data on biodiversity (surveying and monitoring) and</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sponsor: Mick &amp; Tim</b></p> <p><b>Involved: Reuben; Martyn; Mark; Mike; Jo</b></p>	<p><b>Actions / Timescales</b></p> <p>Draw up costed work programmes for each site for 2019-2024</p> <p>Deliver Care-Peat project and</p>	<p><b>Who else should be involved?</b></p> <p>NE MMU</p>

<p>hydrology of LWT sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better quantification of carbon fluxes at each site</li> <li>• Ensure robust research on carbon sequestration, planting etc e.g. working with MMU and other researchers; DEFRA, Peatland Code</li> <li>• Work with land owners of surrounding land to peatland sites to improve management for benefit of restoration site/mutual benefit to landowner e.g. re-wetting; restoration to fen etc – look at funding streams</li> <li>• Improve sites to support the GMW Species Reintroductions project</li> <li>• Investigate and support paludiculture e.g. MMU sphagnum trial, Winmarleigh trial</li> <li>• Ensure security of sites is assessed and improved to a suitable level where necessary</li> </ul>		<p>implement findings post-project</p> <p>Ensure robust methodology</p> <p>Ensure good audit trail</p> <p>Wider research approach</p>	
	<p><b>Sponsor:</b></p>	<p>Deliver communications</p>	

<p><b>4) Best practice sharing/promotion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange visits to external sites eg Cumbria; upland sites; European sites</li> <li>• Influence management of non-owned sites – via Interreg, LPP, other peat projects, WPM approach, relationships with Abbeystead Estate</li> <li>• IUCN Peatland Programme?</li> </ul>		<p>actions in Care-Peat project</p> <p>Maintain relationship with Abbeystead Estate</p> <p>Support the Lancashire Peat Partnership</p> <p>Contribute to other joint partnerships</p> <p>Continue to influence via the GM Wetlands Partnership</p>	
<p><b>5) Promote Alternatives to peat</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the Peat-Free campaign developed by Laura Kennedy</li> <li>• Improve working relationships with RHS</li> <li>• LWT awareness campaign</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sponsor: LPI PM</b></p>	<p><b>Actions / Timescales</b></p>	<p><b>Who else should be involved?</b></p>
<p><b>6) Community Involvement/appreciation</b></p>	<p><b>Sponsor:</b> <b>Involved: Mike, Daveen, Carbon</b></p>	<p>Develop specific projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some under carbon</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve access where appropriate</li> <li>• Establish and support Friends of groups and volunteering</li> <li>• Run community events to improve local awareness, ownership and involvement</li> </ul>	<p><b>Landscape</b></p>	<p>landscape??</p>	
<p><b>7) Promotion of benefits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publicity in Lapwing, LWT website etc</li> <li>• Active media campaigns on themes e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- species reintroductions</li> <li>- peat-free</li> <li>- carbon</li> <li>- GMSF</li> <li>- Natural capital</li> <li>- HS2</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Sponsor: Lindsay</b></p>		

<p><b>8) Policy Influencing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay up to date with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DEFRA proposed peat strategy</li> <li>- Lowland agricultural peat taskforce</li> <li>- GM carbon neutral plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Continue to oppose planning applications for peat extraction</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sponsor: Mick</b> <b>Involved: Jo; Dave Dunlop</b></p>	<p><b>Actions / Timescales</b></p>	<p><b>Who else should be involved?</b></p> <p>GMEU, Salford CC, NE</p>
<p><b>9) Working with others</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peel – continue to monitor Astley Moss East, Chat Moss and 12 Yards Road management and seek opportunities to influence management/acquire land</li> <li>• IUCN</li> <li>• Lancashire Peat Partnership</li> <li>• Landowners/Farmers</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sponsor: Tim / Mick</b></p>	<p><b>Actions / Timescales</b></p>	<p><b>Who else should be involved?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Greater Manchester Ecological Unit</i></li> <li>• <i>Salford CC (Mosslands Strategy and Sustainable Development Policy)</i></li> <li>• <i>Lancs CC?</i></li> <li>• <i>Natural England</i></li> <li>• <i>Environment Agency</i></li> <li>• <i>Other Wildlife Trusts</i></li> </ul>

			<i>(local and national)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>WT National Co-ordinator</i></li> <li>• <i>MPs</i></li> </ul>
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**Opportunities/Wishlist**

Buffer land around LWM; Astley Moss; Winmarleigh

Expand Sphagnum trial

Improve linkages in former Chat Moss area, particularly between Manchester Mosses sites

New Moss Wood

Access

Linkages with uplands?

Wetland mapping/peat mapping? Student project?

**Key LWT sites:**

**(site manager)**

Winmarleigh and Cockerham Moss (Reuben?)

Heysham Moss (Reuben)

Highfield Moss (Mark)

Astley Moss (Martyn)

Little Woolden Moss (Martyn)

Cadishead Moss (Martyn)



Red Moss (Bolton CC owned) (Martyn)

Others?

### **Other Key Sites in GMW**

Holcroft Moss (CWT)

Risley Moss (WBC)

### **Other Key Sites in Lancashire – working with LPP**

Winter Hill

Smithills

Bowland

West Pennine Moors

South Pennines

Needs more on

- Demonstration trial with NC
- Devising and developing a strategic plan (see EFF bid) and communications plan

- Use of decision-making tools
- DEFRA Lowland peatland steering group
- Evidence of NC benefits – quantification – links into GMCA agenda
- Eco network model – linking up peat? Vol with GIS experience to work with Amanda's team