New Forest Life Partnership

Sustainable Wetland Restoration in the New Forest - A LIFE-Nature European Union funded project
NEW FOREST WETLAND
MANAGEMENT PLAN
2006 - 2016

Forestry Commission
PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

• To carry forward the work achieved to date into the next 10 years (2006-2016)
• To take on board the lessons learned
• To ensure the long term sustainability & integrated management of the hydraulic network
Who is the plan aimed at?

Intended to be a practical working document aimed at managers, planners & ground staff within the Partner Organisations
What the Plan Comprises

- Background
- Historic Legacy & Management
- Catchment Characteristics
- Wetland Restoration Works - *techniques, maintenance, monitoring & costs*
- Case Studies
Why do we need to do more work?

- 11,000 hectares of New Forest SSSI still in unfavourable condition, even after work carried out by LIFE 3!!
The Future Works?

- Need to be carefully prioritised & targeted
- Inclusion in the Plan will act as a catalyst to find funding
- Need to take on board any lessons learned from Life 3 to date
Priorities of Future Works?

• Priority 1 – works required to restore unfavourable declining SSSI units to favourable condition
• Priority 2 – works requiring longer lead in time but still needed to restore SSSI
• Priority 3 – “would be nice to do”
To progress future restoration consultation is the key!
Why Involve Local Communities?

- Public bodies spending public money
- Build trust for custodians of landscape
- Education and understanding
- Develop a sense of ownership
Who to Involve?

- Regulatory bodies
- People whose living is dependent upon the landscape
- People who study the landscape and its features
- People who enjoy the landscape for recreation
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<td>Local people and Some Recreational Interest Groups</td>
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**Note:**
- General Visitors: Low interest, low influence.
- Some Regulatory Bodies: Low interest, high influence.
- Environmental Bodies & Interest Groups: High interest, high influence.
Stakeholder Interest and Influence

- **Low Influence**
  - Low Interest
  - High Interest

- **High Influence**
  - Increasing competence
  - Increasing involvement in detail
  - Increasing education need
  - Increasing need for trust

Forestry Commission

Natura 2000

New Forest Life Partnership
Water Basin Management Forum
Role of Forum Members

• To advise partners about delivery
• To share their specialist knowledge
• To communicate the work of the project through their own network of contacts
• To support and promote the work of the project
Role of Forum for Partners

- To debate proposals for work
- To raise issues and concerns
- To expose members to a range of views
- To inform and educate
- To input views of local communities
Influence of Forum

• No influence:
  – on contractual commitments

• Could influence:
  – methods of delivery
  – order of delivery
  – communication of project
Forum Site Visits
Public Consultation - Launch Event
Public Consultation - Information

- Guided walks on site
- Talks to interest groups
- Newsletters/websites
Public Consultation - Information

- Guided walks on site
- Newsletters/websites
- Talks to interest groups
- On site signage
Public Consultation - Information

- Guided walks on site
- Newsletters/websites
- Talks to interest groups
- On site signage
- New Forest Show
Lessons Learnt

• Involve key players from the outset
• Be prepared to listen and adapt
• Be prepared to evolve consultation techniques
• Concentrate public engagement at point of delivery
• Use key players to share promotion of project
• Do as you say and do it well
• The need for consultation never stops
Any Questions?