

Nature in the Dales:

# 2020 vision

---

The second Biodiversity Action Plan for the  
Yorkshire Dales National Park

## **2016 Trends and Status Review**

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority  
On behalf of the Biodiversity Forum  
July 2017

Contact: [wildlifeconservation@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:wildlifeconservation@yorkshiredales.org.uk)

## Contents

1. Executive Summary .....	4
2. Introduction .....	5
3. Assessment Methods .....	6
3.1 Actions.....	6
3.2 LBAP Over-arching Actions.....	6
3.3 Habitat Assessment.....	6
3.3.1 SSSI Habitat Assessment.....	6
Table 1: The comparison of BAP Priority Habitats and Natural England classification .....	7
3.3.2 Non-SSSI Habitat Assessment.....	8
Table 2: The YDNPA Survey Programme to assess BAP Habitat extent and condition outside SSSI.....	8
3.4 Assessments of 2016 Habitat Actions and Objectives.....	9
3.5 Assessment of Species 2016 Aims and Objectives .....	10
3.6 Amendments to the Priority Species List .....	11
4. Results.....	12
4.1 Habitat Objective.....	12
4.2 Species Objective.....	12
4.3 HAP Actions and Targets.....	13
4.4 SAP Actions and Targets .....	13
4.5 Over-arching Objectives .....	13
5. Appendices and Tables .....	14
Appendix 1 - The Organisations represented on the Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum in 2016 .....	14
Cumbria Wildlife Trust.....	14
Environment Agency.....	14
National Trust.....	14
Natural England .....	14
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds .....	14
Upper Wharfedale Field Society .....	14
Wharfedale Naturalists Society.....	14
Yoredale Natural History Society.....	14
Yorkshire Dales Environment Network, ex University of Leeds.....	14
Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust.....	14
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.....	14
Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust.....	14
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.....	14
Appendix 2 - A Summary of delivery of over-arching LBAP actions .....	15
Table 3: Habitat Action Plan targets due to be achieved between 2013 and 2016 .....	24

Table 4: Species Action Plan Targets due to be achieved by 2016..... 26

Table 5: The area (ha) and condition of LBAP Priority Habitats in the Yorkshire Dales National Park..... 28

Table 6: The number of LBAP Priority Species that are ‘stable’, ‘increasing’ or ‘declining’ in the Yorkshire Dales National Park..... 29

Table 7: Comparison of SSSI habitat condition (%) rated ‘Favourable’ between 2013 and 2016<sup>33</sup>

Table 8: Comparison of non SSSI habitat condition (%) rated ‘A’ between 2013 and 2016 ..... 33

## **1. Executive Summary**

*Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision*, which was published in 2011, is the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) for the Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP). It set out two primary objectives and the actions needed to conserve the 17 national Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats and 124 priority species that are found in the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

This report is the second comprehensive review of progress. It covers the pre-boundary extension area of the National Park, and does not include any data from the parts of Lancashire and Cumbria that were designated as part of the YDNP on 1st August 2016.

The results are derived from an extensive programme of survey and monitoring work, undertaken by many different organisations and individuals since 2010. This data has been collated and assessed to determine the extent of progress.

### **Results**

In terms of the two primary objectives:

- 84% of the area of priority habitats in the YDNP is in 'good' condition (just below the target of 85%).
- 81% of the priority species for which meaningful data is available had population that were either stable or increasing (just above the target of 80%).

In addition, there are 20 species where a baseline has been established but sample sizes are small and so any trend is indicative, or where repeat surveys have not yet been undertaken to determine a trend.

Of the 49 Habitat Action Plan (HAP) actions due to be completed by the end of 2016:

- 23 (47%) have been achieved;
- 19 (39%) are underway; and,
- 7 (14%) have not been met.

Of the 42 Species Action Plan (SAP) actions due to be completed by the end of 2016:

- 15 (36%) have been achieved;
- 16 (38%) are underway; and,
- 11 (26%) have not been achieved.

Significant progress has also been made towards the majority of over-arching LBAP actions with a summary listed in this report.

The success of the LBAP is due to the work undertaken by many landowners and farmers working in partnership with organisations including Natural England, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and other agencies, and primarily funded through agri-environment schemes such as the Environmental Stewardship Scheme. In addition, over 30 local, regional and national organisations have contributed to the delivery of the LBAP survey and monitoring programme.

## **2. Introduction**

For the purposes of this review, only data for the pre-extension area of the National Park have been used. It does not include any records from the small part of Lancashire and a larger area of Cumbria that were designated as part of the YDNP on 1st August 2016.

Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision, the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) for the Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP) was published by the Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum in 2010. The Forum is a group of statutory organisations and local natural history societies that are committed to supporting and promoting biodiversity conservation within the YDNP and oversee the delivery of the LBAP (see Appendix 1 for current membership of the Forum).

The LBAP includes Habitat Action Plans (HAPs) and Species Action Plans (SAPs) detailing the conservation actions that are required to conserve the national priority species and habitats found within the YDNP. There are also numerous over-arching actions that are fundamental to the delivery of the plan.

The LBAP Trends and Status Review details the number of actions and targets due to be implemented between 2013 and 2016, summarises the key achievements in delivering the over-arching actions, and determines whether the two primary 2016 objectives have been reached.

Comprehensive reviews to determine the progress towards achieving the objectives listed in Nature in the Dales were proposed to be undertaken in 2013, 2016 and 2020. This report details the work that has been achieved between 2013 and the end of 2016. This has been quantified by determining the number of actions due to be implemented during this period, and the number that have been completed. The over-arching actions that underpin the LBAP process in the YDNP have also been assessed with the key achievements summarised in this report.

The progress towards achieving the two primary objectives of getting 95% of the area of priority habitats in the YDNP into 'good' condition by 2020 and, 95% of the populations of priority species in the YDNP into a stable or increasing condition by 2020 has also been assessed to determine whether the following have been achieved:

To get 85% by area of priority habitats in the Yorkshire Dales National Park in 'good' condition by 2016 and,

To get 80% of the populations of priority species in the Yorkshire Dales National Park into a stable or increasing condition by 2016.

### **3. Assessment Methods**

#### **3.1 Actions**

The actions that were due to be completed between 2013 and the end of 2016 have been reviewed to determine progress.

#### **3.2 LBAP Over-arching Actions**

The progress towards the delivery of the over-arching actions that are included in Nature in the Dales has been assessed, with the key achievements identified.

#### **3.3 Habitat Assessment**

In order to be able to determine the progress towards the 2020 primary habitat objective, the HAP includes an action to determine the extent and condition of each BAP priority habitat by the end of 2016.

The extent and condition of the BAP priority habitats in the YDNP has been determined using data from several sources. The methods used to analyse this data are detailed below. This includes explanations of any assumptions, constraints and/or caveats that are relevant to the derivation of the results.

The area and condition of priority habitats within Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and in non-SSSI areas have been determined using different techniques. All data for priority habitats within SSSIs has been provided by Natural England (NE). Data outside these designated areas have been assessed by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA).

##### **3.3.1 SSSI Habitat Assessment**

Natural England currently provides annual information on the condition of “Priority Habitats” within SSSIs. These “Priority Habitats” do not always directly match with specific BAP habitats and so were allocated to BAP habitats by YDNPA as summarised in Table 1.

This ‘Priority Habitat’ data is summarised differently to the ‘Natural England Broad Habitat’ data which was used in the 2013 Report. As the two datasets are not directly comparable, the extent of a BAP habitat within each SSSI has changed; hence there are inconsistencies in area (Ha). Given these changes, it is not possible to determine definitive percentage (%) changes in individual HAP condition between 2013 and 2016 (as identified as specific targets within individual HAPs). However, any trends in SSSI HAP condition between 2013 and 2016 are shown in Table 7.

**Table 1: The comparison of BAP Priority Habitats and Natural England classification**

Habitat code	BAP Priority Habitat Type	NE Priority Habitat Classification	NE Broad Habitat
G04	Lowland calcareous grassland	Lowland calcareous grassland	Calcareous grassland - lowland
G06	Lowland meadows	Lowland meadows	Neutral grassland - lowland
G08	Upland calcareous grassland	Upland calcareous grassland	Calcareous grassland - upland
G09	Upland hay meadow	Upland hay meadow	Neutral grassland - upland
G10	Calaminarian grassland	Calaminarian grassland	N/A
L01	Limestone pavement	Limestone pavement	Inland rock
M04	Upland heathland	Upland heathland	Dwarf shrub heath - upland
M06	Blanket bog	Blanket bog	Bogs - upland
M07	Inland rocks & scree	N/A	N/A
M08	Upland flushes, fens & swamps	Upland flushes, fens & swamps	Fen, marsh & swamp – upland
T08, T10, T11, T12, T13	Native woodland	Deciduous woodland	Broadleaved, mixed & yew woodland - upland
W04	Lowland fen	Lowland fen	Fen, marsh & swamp – lowland
W05	Lowland raised bog	Lowland raised bog	N/A
W06	Mesotrophic Lakes	N/A	Standing open water & canals
W07	Ponds	N/A	N/A
N/A	Rivers	N/A	Rivers & streams
F02	Hedgerows	N/A	N/A

In addition, the Mesotrophic Lake HAP (solely Semerwater and Malham Tarn) has been assessed using condition data taken from Natural England website.

NE provides condition assessment of these “Priority Habitats” using the following categories:

- Favourable (F)
- Unfavourable Recovering (UR)
- Unfavourable No Change (UNC)
- Unfavourable Declining (UD)
- Part Destroyed (PD)
- Destroyed (D)

In this review, a SSSI BAP habitat is classified as being in 'good condition' if it has been assessed as 'Favourable (F)' or 'Unfavourable Recovering (UR)'.

### **3.3.2 Non-SSSI Habitat Assessment**

Data for non-SSSI habitat has been obtained by two different means: data gathered whilst assisting with agri-environment applications and commissioning habitat surveys.

The YDNPA has assisted farmers and landowners to access the agri-environment scheme Environmental Stewardship. This has involved a survey and assessment of the habitat found on the farm, and is conducted using methodology devised by Natural England specifically for the Environmental Stewardship Scheme

<http://adlib.everysite.co.uk/resources/000/251/202/NE264.pdf> Condition of the habitat is assessed and classified using the following the categories:

- A – No missed/failed criteria
- B – 1 missed/failed criteria
- C – 2 or more missed/failed criteria

In this review, a non-SSSI BAP habitat is classified as being in 'good condition' if it has been assessed as being in category 'A'.

In addition the YDNPA is currently in the eighth year of a rolling survey programme to assess the condition of BAP habitats outside SSSI across the entire National Park. The methodology used is as detailed above for the Environmental Stewardship application process. For the purpose of this survey the National Park has been divided into distinct survey areas, with the proposed annual survey program shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: The YDNPA Survey Programme to assess BAP Habitat extent and condition outside SSSI.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Parish Survey Plan</b>
2010	Appletreewick, Barden, Beamsley, Bolton Abbey, Burnsall, Cracoe, Embsay with Eastby, Grassington, Halton East, Hartlington, Hazlewood with Storiths, Hebden, Hetton, Linton, Rylstone, Thorpe, Threshfield
2011	Arncliffe, Bordley, Buckden, Conistone with Kilnsey, Halton Gill, Hawkswick, Starbotton with Kettlewell, Litton
2012	Airton, Calton, Eshton, Flasby with Winterburn, Hanlith, Hellifield, Kirkby Malham, Malham, Malham Moor, Otterburn, Scosthrop, Stirton with Thorlby
2013	Austwick, Clapham, Giggleswick, Hellifield, Horton-in-Ribblesdale, Ingleton, Langcliffe, Lawkland, Long Preston, Settle, Stainforth, Thornton in Lonsdale
2014	Dent, Garsdale, Sedbergh
2015 & 2016	Askrigg, Aysgarth, Bainbridge, Bishopdale, Burton-cum-Walden, Carperby, Castle Bolton, Caldbergh-with-East Scafton, Calton Highdale, Carlton Town, Coverham-with Agglethorpe, East Witton Town, Hawes, High Abbotside, Low Abbotside, Melmerby, Newbiggin, Thorlby, Thornton Rust, West Scafton, West Witton,
2017	Arkengarthdale, Downholme, Ellerton Abbey, Fremington, Grinton, Healaugh, Hudswell, Marrick, Marske, Melbecks, Muker, Reeth

In order to avoid duplication and to ensure consistency during this and future BAP reviews, only survey data that has been gathered during the period 2010 and 2016 has been analysed (in addition with Farm Environment Plan (FEP) data). Any other data collected prior to 2010 has not been used.

Several of the YDNPA surveys have not fully assigned habitats to a single habitat type and have assigned them as mosaics of several types. In most cases, the mosaics have not been assigned percentage cover and, therefore, it is not possible to determine actual area of the component habitats. Therefore, all mosaics have been removed from the data.

It should be noted that – with over 95% of the National Park in private ownership - undertaking survey work is dependent on obtaining landowner permission. The total area of non-SSSI habitat that can be surveyed will, therefore, be determined by the extent to which these permissions are granted. As an indication, in the first three years of the survey (2010-2012) an average of 57% of landowners that were contacted allowed access for survey work. It should be noted that definitive landownership details are not available and so a proportion of those who were contacted, were not the actual landowner (i.e. incorrect owner). As such, it will not be feasible to definitively determine the extent of each BAP habitat within the YDNP.

### **3.3.3 Rivers HAP**

The condition assessment of BAP Rivers has been conducted using a different methodology. The assessment has been desk based using data that has been gathered by the Environment Agency (EA). Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification (provided by the EA) has been applied to each waterbody identified by the Joint Nature Conservancy Council (JNCC) as a BAP River. However, due to constraints this JNCC classification does not include headwaters and therefore these areas have not been included unless also classified under different criteria. In addition, waterbodies that pass through a SSSI designated for riverine features or fluvial geomorphology have also been included.

WFD classification provides a status of a waterbody (recorded as high, good, moderate, poor or bad). To be consistent with other BAP habitats these can be broadly translated as High/Good – A; Moderate – B; Poor/Bad – C.

## **3.4 Assessments of 2016 Habitat Actions and Objectives**

This review seeks to determine the overall percentage of habitats in 'good condition'. The area of each specific LBAP habitat has been determined by combining the area of SSSI and non-SSSI habitat, with the percentage of each habitat in 'good condition' derived.

It should be noted that any annual change in non SSSI HAP condition cannot be determined. The annual survey does not, and has never sought to repeat assessment to monitor change on an individual site. Therefore, in order to report on any trend in HAP condition the percentage (%) in condition A in 2013 and 2016 has been determined and is displayed in Table 8. Any difference in condition between the two years is a reflection of the survey effort and does not show absolute changes in condition. Therefore, any individual HAP with a target to enhance degraded non SSSI habitat cannot be accurately reported upon and the action will be noted as underway within Table 3.

### 3.5 Assessment of Species 2016 Aims and Objectives

A variety of different survey methodologies have been used to determine the trends and status of species in different taxonomic groups. Whenever possible, standardised survey methodologies, recognized national survey or monitoring programmes have been used to determine trends. Where these were not available or appropriate, other recognized survey techniques have been used to determine trends and/or record presence or absence of a species at a site or survey area. The results of these surveys have been used to categorise the population trend of each LBAP species as one of the following:

- Stable;
- Increasing;
- Declining;
- Baseline established but insufficient or no comparable data;
- No baseline established.

In some cases where populations are small, or where a species has a widespread distribution but occurs at low density, it may be not possible to derive statistically robust trend data. In these cases, expert opinion has been sought to determine whether a population trend can be determined.

A number of species were added to the national BAP priority species list in 2010, with those known to be present in the YDNP included within the 2020 LBAP. In cases where no previous survey work has been undertaken in the YDNP, baseline surveys have been established.

For some species that have a restricted distribution or where the population may well be widespread but very scarce, the results of survey work have resulted in small sample sizes and so determining an accurate trend is difficult. In cases where no previous survey work has been undertaken and no baseline population data is available, it has not been possible to determine a trend. However, baseline surveys have been completed for a number of species that will allow future trends to be assessed. Given these issues and in order to determine progress towards the primary objective of getting 80% of the populations of priority species in the Yorkshire Dales National Park into a stable or increasing condition by 2016, the species have been categorised as follows:

- Section 1 - Where there is sufficient data to determine a population trend;
- Section 2 - Where a baseline has been established but sample sizes are small and so any trend is indicative, or where repeat surveys have not yet been undertaken to determine a trend;.
- Section 3 - Where records are too irregular either in terms of location and/or reports that it is not feasible to establish an appropriate monitoring program and/or determine current status.

During the course of this LBAP, as baseline surveys are repeated and a trend is derived, a number of species may move from Section 2 to Section 1.

Continued or improved monitoring may enable the trends of some species in Section 3 to be determined in future reviews. However, it is likely that there are some species, for example many of the moths and some birds species such as Marsh Tit, that occur

infrequently or have such an erratic distribution that it is not logistically feasible to establish a monitoring program even if significant additional resources were available.

Given the limitations of some of the data, the percentage of species in Section 1 that are stable or increasing is considered to be the best way of determining the overall status of LBAP species in the YDNP.

### **3.6 Amendments to the Priority Species List**

Since 2010 and the publication of Nature in the Dales 2020 there have been no additional confirmed records of Water Vole *Arvicola terrestris* but in 2016 a re-introduction was undertaken at Malham Tarn by the National Trust. The status of this species will be assessed in the next review.

The status of Polecat *Mustela putorius* is unclear due to the presence of Polecat x ferret hybrids and so this species has been removed from the YDNP species list. Further assessment can be made if further information becomes available.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* is excluded from the species totals as despite there being large areas of suitable nesting habitat, there have been no successful nesting attempts in the YDNP since 2007. This means that the population status cannot be classified as stable, increasing or declining.

## **4. Results**

### **4.1 Habitat Objective**

The area and condition of all LBAP priority habitats in the Yorkshire Dales National Park are shown in Table 5.

In summary:

The total area of BAP habitat in SSSI = 42,642 ha;

The total area of BAP habitat in SSSI in Favourable or Unfavourable Recovering Condition = 40,844 ha;

The total area of non-SSSI BAP habitat surveyed between 2010 and 2016 = 7,336 ha;

The total area of non-SSSI BAP habitat surveyed between 2010 and 2016 in A condition = 1,083 ha;

The area of priority habitats in the Yorkshire Dales National Park in 'good' condition by 2016 = 84%.

Therefore, the first primary LBAP objective to get 85% by area of priority habitats in the Yorkshire Dales National Park in 'good' condition by 2016 has been missed by the narrowest of margins.

### **4.2 Species Objective**

There are a total of 124 LBAP priority species present within the YDNP with the status and trend categories for each of these shown in Table 6.

There are 59 species where there is sufficient data to enable a population trend to be determined. Of these species, 4 are increasing (7%); 44 are stable (74%) and 11 are declining (19%).

By the end of 2016 there were 59 'monitorable' LBAP species, of which 48 were stable or increasing (81%).

In addition, there are 20 species where a baseline has been established but sample sizes are small and so any trend is indicative, or where repeat surveys have not yet been undertaken to determine a trend.

There are also 45 species where no baseline has been established. A considerable amount of work has been undertaken in order to try and to determine trends for the majority of these species but, in many cases, they are either on the edge of their national range within the YDNP, may well be primarily lowland species with only very few occasional records in the YDNP, do not have a regular distribution and/or are present at very low density over a wide geographical area. It is, therefore, difficult to establish an appropriate monitoring program or determine population trend.

By the end of 2016 there were 59 'monitorable' LBAP species of which 47 were stable or increasing (80%). Using this figure, the second primary objective to get 80% of the populations of priority species in the Yorkshire Dales National Park into a stable or increasing condition by 2016 has been achieved.

### **4.3 HAP Actions and Targets**

A total of 49 HAP actions were due to be completed by the end of 2016. Of these, 23 (47%) targets have been achieved, 19 (39%) are underway and 7(14%) have not been met. A list of all the HAP actions is shown in Table 3.

### **4.4 SAP Actions and Targets**

A total of 42 SAP actions were due to be completed by the end of 2016. Of these, 15 (36%) targets have been achieved, 16 (38%) are underway and 11 (26%) have not been achieved. A list of all the SAP actions is shown in Table 4.

### **4.5 Over-arching Objectives**

A summary of the over-arching actions that have been completed is in Appendix 2.

The 2016 Trends and Status Review was written and co-ordinated by Ian Court and Hannah Fawcett of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in 2011, following consultation.

**The Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum wishes to acknowledge the financial support from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in the production of *Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision*.**

## **5. Appendices and Tables**

### **Appendix 1 - The Organisations represented on the Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum in 2016**

Cumbria Wildlife Trust  
Environment Agency  
National Trust  
Natural England  
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds  
Upper Wharfedale Field Society  
Wharfedale Naturalists Society  
Yoredale Natural History Society  
Yorkshire Dales Environment Network, ex University of Leeds  
Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust  
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority  
Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust  
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

## **Appendix 2 - A Summary of delivery of over-arching LBAP actions**

The following are the list of over-arching actions as listed in Nature in the Dales and a summary of progress that has been made to date.

### **Helping biodiversity to respond to climate change:**

#### **Conserving existing biodiversity**

Details of progress towards HAP and SAP aims and targets are in sections 4.1 and 4.2 respectively.

#### **Reducing sources of harm not linked to climate change**

- Development and delivery of the Catchment Sensitive Farming Project;
- Appropriate advice delivered through the planning system.

#### **Developing ecologically resilient and varied landscapes**

- YDNPA Ecological Networks Strategy 2014-18 was published in 2014;
- The North Pennines Local Nature Partnership Ecological Network Sub-group has been set up and is working towards delivery of ecological networks;
- Development of Habitat Suitability Models for Curlew, Lapwing and Bats;
- Development of a Defra catchment based approach to river management by working with the Yorkshire Dales, Lune, Ribble, Eden and Aire Rivers Trusts.
- River Trust catchment partnerships include:
  - Dales to vales Rivers Network (Swale, Ure & Wharfe);
  - Ribble Life;
  - Living Lune;
  - Saving the Eden;
  - Aire & Calder.

#### **Establishing ecological networks through habitat protection, restoration and creation**

Development and implementation of:

- YDNPA Ecological Networks Strategy 2014-18;
- Habitat Suitability Models for Curlew, Lapwing and Bats.

#### **Making sound decisions based on analysis**

- The LBAP survey and monitoring program provides robust data for targeting positive land management and underpins the development of ecological network strategies;

- Integrating adaptation and mitigation measures into conservation management, planning and practice;
- Utilising up-to-date survey data to target agri-environment scheme delivery by ecological input into the Local Plan (2016) and development of Planning Design Guide.

### **Incorporating a climate change adaptation plan into the 2012-2017 Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan (YDNPMP)**

The report '*Adapting to Climate Change in the Yorkshire Dales National Park An assessment of risks, opportunities and actions*' prepared on behalf of the National Park Management Plan Steering Group and published in June 2011.

Relevant objectives in the Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan (NPMP) 2013-18 published in June 2013 are:

- D1 - Through the Yorkshire Peat Partnership, help farmers and landowners to restore more natural drainage that slows the flow of water, enhances biodiversity and reduces carbon emissions across a further 14,000 hectares of degraded peatland by 2018;
- D2 - Reduce carbon emissions and improve the viability of local businesses and communities by increasing the take up of small-scale renewable energy so that at least 1 megawatt has been installed by 2018;
- D3 - Promote take up of energy efficiency measures that are suited to the traditional building stock so as to cut energy costs and support efforts to eliminate fuel poverty by 2016;
- D4 - Make semi-natural habitats more resilient and adaptable to the uncertainties of climate change and the risks from new pests and diseases by identifying priority sites by 2014, and helping farmers and landowners to 'buffer' or link together a number of the key gaps by 2018;
- D5 - Help local communities to adapt to the impacts of more extreme weather conditions, identifying sites most at risk and using these to target appropriate local interventions and resilience measures;
- D6 - Support farmers and landowners to create at least 400 hectares of new native woodland by 2020, to strengthen habitat networks, increase carbon storage and help to reduce flooding;
- D7 - Ensure that at least 66% of all woodland is in active management by 2018 and develop a locally-based woodfuel initiative;
- D8 - Minimise road haulage and maximise the use of rail to transport quarry products and commercial timber, including establishing rail links at the three quarries in Ribblesdale and reducing combined road haulage from these quarries by at least 50% by 2015;

### **Implementing mitigation projects based on peat restoration and woodland creation**

Delivery through:

- The Yorkshire Peat Project;
- Dales Woodland Strategy;
- Delivery of LBAP New Native Woodland management and restoration targets.

## **Ensuring Environmental Stewardship is reviewed and updated to take account of management for climate change**

YDNPA as members of the National Parks England Agriculture and Rural Development Group have been a formal consultee to the development of New Environmental Land Management Scheme.

## **Increasing the dialogue with land managers to assess the implications of climate change on land management practices**

Delivered through a number of initiatives including:

- Yorkshire Peat Project;
- River Trust Project;
- Dales Woodland Strategy;
- High Nature Value Farming group within the Northern Upland Chain Local Nature Partnership (NUCLNP);
- Yorkshire Dales Catchment Sensitive Farming Partnership.

## **Reducing the risks and damage caused by invasive non-native species:**

**Complete the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's (YDNPA) non-native invasive species review by 2010 and incorporation into Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision by 2011**

- The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority policy on non-native species was approved in November 2010;
- The NPMP 2013 objective C7 - Help landowners and other organisations to manage invasive, non-native species, including establishing which ones can be effectively managed, and mapping their distribution by 2018;
- The establishment of the Yorkshire Dales Biosecurity and INNS' working group, whose work has included the drafting of an INNS strategy for the Yorkshire Dales;
- The establishment of a Conservation Officer post based at the University of Leeds to work with stakeholders to identify key invasion risks and pathways, develop effective and pragmatic biosecurity practices and deliver resources and training to slow the spread of invasive species within the project area.

## **Providing spatial frameworks for landscape-scale habitat restoration:**

- The YDNPA Ecological Networks Strategy 2014-18 was completed in 2014 and has been incorporated into the Local Plan (2016);
- The Yorkshire Dales National Park Integrated Habitat Network model first analysis was produced by Forest Research in 2012. This was refined and updated in 2012, 2014 and 2016;
- Habitat suitability models for Curlew, Lapwing and Bats have been completed for the YDNP.

## **Protecting the best sites for wildlife through Agricultural practice and support systems:**

**Continuing to provide support through the Environmental Stewardship Higher Level Scheme (HLS) and Woodland Grant Schemes (WGS) to encourage farmers and land managers to manage the land as much for landscape and wildlife as for livestock production**

NE Monitoring Protected Landscape Data:

- Percentage of National Park under ES (HLS and ELS) = 77%;
- Percentage area of managed woodland in National Park (in WGS) = 56%.

YDNPA are members of the National Parks England Agriculture and Rural Development Group and have recently agreed a Future of Farming paper & submitted it to DEFRA.

**Maintaining some basic environmental standards through Cross-compliance and the Environmental Stewardship Entry Level Scheme (ELS) to prevent further loss of biodiversity**

NE Monitoring Protected Landscape Data shows that:

- Percentage of National Park under ES (HLS and ELS) = 77%.

YDNPA as members of the National Parks England Agriculture and Rural Development Group and have recently agreed a Future of farming paper & submitted it to DEFRA.

**Continuing to encourage the development of a more sustainable farming industry with levels of grazing linked to the environmental carrying capacity of the land and balanced mixed farming systems using support from Environmental Stewardship and targeted demonstration programmes such as the Limestone Country Project**

- Continuation of the Hay Time project;
- Development of the Catchment Sensitive Farming project;
- Continuation of the High Nature Value Farming group within the Northern Upland Chain Local Nature Partnership (NUCLNP).

**Providing support for the rural economy by helping farmers to develop higher value markets and other rural businesses which are compatible with maintaining biodiversity in the National Park**

High Nature Value Farming group within the NUCLNP leading on project development to support farm businesses and improve efficiency linked into good environmental management.

## **Grouse moor management:**

**Targeting of funds to assist moorland owners to block grips, restore peatlands, and reduce grazing levels and plant gill woodlands**

- Delivered by the Yorkshire Peat Partnership;
- Delivery of New Native Woodland planting schemes;

- The NUCLNP Great Upland Forest working group is developing a prospectus for new woodland planting in the LNP area that will include gill woodlands.

### **Establishing joint forums to discuss and resolve areas of conflict**

National Park Authority representation on the Defra Upland Stakeholder Forum and relevant sub-groups including:

- The DEFRA Hen Harrier sub-group has published the joint action plan to increase the English Hen Harrier population;
- Best Practice Burning Group considering burning on blanket bog and deep peat.

### **Targeting action on priority species and habitat:**

Delivery of Nature in the Dales continues to be underpinned by two over-arching principles that were applied to the selection of habitats and species for inclusion:

#### **The habitat or species must be one of those listed in the current UK BAP list**

Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision focuses on delivering national BAP actions to conserve national BAP priority habitats and species found in the YDNP.

**There must be good evidence that the habitat or species occurred in sufficient amounts in the YDNP and that local actions (as opposed to direct national interventions) would make a difference to their conservation or enhancement**

The LBAP Priority Species list has been determined in consultation with a wide range of local and national organisations, and independent specialists.

### **Embedding proper consideration of biodiversity and ecosystem services in all relevant sectors of policy and decision-making:**

#### **Integrating Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision Aims and Objectives into the 2013-2018 Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan (YDNPMP)**

The LBAP objectives and actions have been integrated into the following objectives in the Yorkshire Dales NPMP 2013-18:

- C1 Support farmers and landowners to get 85% of the area covered by priority habitats into 'good condition' by 2016, and to get around 38% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest into 'favourable condition' by 2020, including all geological sites;
- C2 Support farmers and landowners to increase the area of priority habitats<sup>1</sup>, including creating at least 20 hectares of upland hay meadows by 2020;
- C3 Support farmers and landowners to ensure that 50% of all ancient semi-natural woodland is in good condition or being well managed by 2018;
- C4 Work with farmers and landowners to achieve and then maintain good ecological status for at least 60% of rivers and 33% of water bodies by 2022 by reducing diffuse pollution, restoring adjacent habitats and improving fish stock and range;
- C5 Establish baseline population estimates for all monitorable priority species by 2016, and set targets to get the population of these species stable or increasing;

- C6 Work with parish councils, local community groups and landowners to increase from 20 to 45 the number of sites that are being managed for nature by local community or volunteer groups by 2018;
- C7 Help landowners and other organisations to manage invasive, non-native species by establishing which can be effectively managed, and mapping their distribution by 2018.

### **Engaging people and encouraging behaviour change:**

**Work with membership based natural history organisations such as the Yorkshire Naturalists Union (YNU) or the Wharfedale Natural History Society (WNHS) together with non-governmental organisations such as the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) to develop monitoring and recording programmes to improve understanding of the status and population trends of the priority species identified in this plan**

Delivery of the LBAP survey and monitoring programs has been undertaken in conjunction with the following organisations:

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation  
 Botanical Society of the Britain & Ireland  
 Bradford Botany Group  
 British Bryological Society  
 British Lichen Society  
 British Mycological Society  
 British Trust for Ornithology  
 Buglife  
 Butterfly Conservation  
 Craven Conservation Group  
 Environment Agency  
 Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust  
 Mid-Yorkshire Fungus Group  
 National Trust  
 Natural England  
 Peoples Trust for Endangered Species  
 Red Squirrels Northern England  
 Ring Ouzel Study Group  
 RSPB  
 University of Leeds  
 Upper Wharfedale Field Society  
 Wensleydale Red Squirrel Group  
 Wharfedale Naturalists Society  
 Yorkshire Dales Butterfly and Moth Action Group  
 Yorkshire Dales Environment Network  
 Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust  
 Yorkshire Wildlife Trust  
 Yorkshire Mammal Group  
 Yorkshire Naturalists' Union  
 Yoredale Naturalists Society

**Through continuation of the Parish Wildlife Project encouraging and supporting local communities to get involved in identifying and managing wildlife projects or sites within their own parishes**

A total of 42 Parish Wildlife Projects were underway by the end of 2016.

**Through the production of guidance documents available on the YDNPA's website encouraging people engaged in development works to incorporate positive biodiversity conservation measures into their plans**

- A guide to adding biodiversity to development added to the YDNPA website in 2012;
- Development of the 'Design Guide' that will include positive conservation measures to deliver biodiversity gain through the planning system. This has gone out for public consultation in summer 2014, with the final version to be adopted in 2017.

**Developing a celebrating biodiversity events programme beginning with the 2020 Vision conference in October 2010**

- 2020 Biodiversity Vision conference was held in October 2010;
- The Yorkshire Dales Rivers Conference was held in Nov 2013.

**Developing a programme to work with other groups such as Wildlife Watch and the John Muir Trust and schools and colleges to engage children and young people in biodiversity activities**

Work with young people between 2013 and 2016 has included:

- Three Young Ranger groups are now running, Dales Young Rangers South, Dales Young Rangers North and Dales Young Rangers West. All groups are open for young people aged 11 to 16yrs to contribute to the practical management of the National Park and learn about it's special qualities;
- 8 Members of Skipton Youth Group achieved a John Muir award in 2014;
- The smooth it out group, young people leaving care have taken part in 6 residential visits all of which have involved practical work;
- 4th Medina Scouts have taken part in tree planting and stream dipping activities amongst several visits 2014 to 2016;
- 6 young people from Bradford academy have achieved a John Muir Award in 2016
- Gunnerside and Bradley schools have taken part in meadow activities;
- The wildlife garden at Settlebeck school has been supported through weekly activities.

**Continuing to develop the Nature in the Dales website as a hub for information about the biodiversity of the YDNP**

The 'Nature in the Dales' website [www.natureinthedales.org.uk](http://www.natureinthedales.org.uk) was redesigned and launched in June 2013 and includes details on 150 of the species and 14 of the most important habitats found in the YDNP. This was developed in conjunction with a wide range of local naturalists, landowners, visitors, academics and conservation professionals. The 'Nature in the Dales' Facebook page was created in September 2014.

**Prevent the loss of limestone pavement by asking people not to use water-worn limestone in gardening or landscaping design schemes**

The majority of the area limestone pavement in the YDNP is covered by Limestone Pavement Orders preventing damage or loss.

**Preventing damage to global peat bogs by asking people not to use peat based products**

Delivered through the Yorkshire Peat Partnership.

**Preventing the loss of native species by competition from non-native invasive species by highlighting which are the problem species and how to avoid releasing them into the wild**

The NPMP 2013 objective C7 aims to:

- help landowners and other organisations to manage invasive, non-native species, including establishing which ones can be effectively managed, and mapping their distribution by 2018.

**Engage the existing community of naturalists to help with recording species**

A wide range of specialists have contributed to delivery of the LBAP along with members and representatives from over 30 conservation groups.

**Encouraging local people and visitors to take part in national and regional public participation wildlife surveying run by organisations such as Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Plantlife or the Yorkshire Naturalists Union (YNU) and to submit their records to the appropriate local or national recording schemes (see Section B.3.7.5)**

Publication of the LBAP Species Survey Plan was published in October 2011 and was circulated to all local natural history societies, 140 contacts on LBAP consultee list and YDNPA Dales Volunteers.

**Encouraging people with concerns about the state of biodiversity in the National Park to raise these concerns with the relevant elected local and national government representatives or with Members of the National Park Authority and make sure that they raise these concerns at the appropriate forums**

The YDNPA member Champion for the Natural Environment is a member of the Biodiversity Forum.

## **Developing and interpreting the evidence base:**

### **Supporting national programmes through implementation of appropriate local monitoring initiatives or by providing logistical assistance to national research and monitoring programmes**

- All LBAP Priority Habitats in the YDNP are being monitored;
- There are 59 LBAP priority species where there is sufficient data to determine a population trend;
- Baseline surveys have been undertaken for 20 LBAP priority species.

The following national surveys that have been promoted and/or undertaken in the YDNP that have contributed to the delivery of the LBAP:

- The number of British Trust for Ornithology Breeding Bird Survey squares covered by volunteers increased from 40 in 2011 to over 60 in the period 2012-16;
- National Amphibian and Reptile Survey;
- National Dormouse Monitoring Program;
- National Ring Ouzel survey 2012;
- National Twite Survey 2013;
- National Hen harrier Survey 2016;
- UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme;
- YDNPA worked with Kew Gardens and the Millennium Seedbank in 2013 to provide Juniper seed for ex situ conservation collections;
- YDNPA contributed towards the BSBI's national Threatened Plants Project for a number of species.

**Table 3: Habitat Action Plan targets due to be achieved between 2013 and 2016**

Key: ✓✓ = achieved; ✓ = underway; X = not achieved

HABITAT	ACTION	STATUS
<b>Hedgerows</b>	H1.1: Complete survey of hedgerows in Craven & South Lakeland by 2016.	✓✓
<b>Mesotrophic Lakes</b>	ML1.1: Maintain the condition of Malham Tarn.	✓✓
	ML1.2: Achieve Favourable Condition of Semer Water by 2016.	X
<b>Ponds</b>	P1.1: Complete survey of ponds in Craven & South Lakeland by 2016.	✓✓
<b>Rivers</b>	R1.1: Determine the appropriate condition assessment technique by 2014.	✓✓
	R1.2: Implement the condition assessment monitoring starting in 2015.	✓✓
<b>Blanket Bog</b>	BB1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Blanket Bog in "Good Condition". Target = 97%	X
	BB1.2: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Blanket Bog in "Good Condition". Target = 21%	X
	BB1.3: To enhance 20% of degraded non-SSSI Blanket Bog to "Good Condition".	✓
	BB2.1: To move 12% of SSSI Blanket Bog in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition.	✓
<b>Calaminarian Grassland</b>	C1.1: Complete survey of calaminarian grassland in Craven & South Lakeland by 2016.	✓✓
<b>Inland Rocks and Scree</b>	IR1.1: Complete survey of inland rocks and scree in Craven & South Lakeland by 2016.	✓✓
<b>Limestone Pavement</b>	LP1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Limestone pavement in "Good Condition". Target 97%	X
	LP1.2: To enhance 2% of degraded non-SSSI Limestone Pavement to "Good Condition".	✓
	LP2.1: To move 12% of SSSI Limestone Pavement in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition by 2016.	✓
	LP3.1: To restore two sites as part of the Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership by 2020.	✓
<b>Lowland Calcareous Grassland</b>	LC1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Lowland Calcareous Grassland in "Good Condition". Target = 93%	✓✓
	LC1.2: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Lowland Calcareous Grassland in "Good Condition". Target =45%	✓✓
	LC1.13: To enhance 12% of degraded non-SSSI Lowland Calcareous Grassland to "Good Condition".	✓
	LC1.21: To move 12% of SSSI Lowland Calcareous Grassland in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition by 2016.	✓
<b>Lowland Fens</b>	LF1.1: Complete survey of lowland fens in Craven & South Lakeland by 2016.	✓✓
<b>Lowland Meadows</b>	LH1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Lowland Meadows in "Good Condition". Target = 17%	✓✓
	LH1.2: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Lowland Meadows in "Good Condition". Target = 43%.	✓✓
<b>Lowland Raised Bogs</b>	RB1.1: Complete survey of lowland raised bogs in Craven & South Lakeland by 2016.	✓✓
<b>Native Woodland</b>	NW1.1: No net loss of Native Woodland.	✓✓
	NW1.2: Maintain existing area of SSSI Native Woodland in "Good	✓✓

HABITAT	ACTION	STATUS
	Condition. Target = 92%	
	NW1.3: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Native Woodland in "Good Condition". Target = 13%	✓✓
	NW1.4: Enhance 2% degraded SSSI Native Woodland to "Good Condition".	✓
	NW1.5: Enhance 20% of degraded non-SSSI Native Woodland to "Good Condition".	✓
	NW2.1: Create 200ha of new Native Woodland between 2010 and 2016.	✓✓
<b>Upland Calcareous Grassland</b>	UC1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Upland Calcareous Grassland in "Good Condition". Target = 94%	✓✓
	UC1.2: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Upland Calcareous Grassland in "Good Condition". Target = 62%	X
	UC1.3: To enhance 3% of degraded SSSI Upland Calcareous Grassland to "Good Condition".	✓
	UC1.4: To enhance 5% of degraded non-SSSI Upland Calcareous Grassland to "Good Condition".	✓
	UC2.1: To move 12 % of SSSI Upland Calcareous Grassland in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition by 2016.	✓
<b>Upland Flushes, Fens &amp; Swamps</b>	UF1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Upland Flushes, Fens & Swamps in "Good Condition". Target = 90%	✓✓
	UF1.2: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Upland Flushes, Fens & Swamps in "Good Condition". Target = 16%	X
	UF1.3: To enhance 1% degraded SSSI Upland Flushes, Fens & Swamps to "Good Condition".	✓
	UF1.4: To enhance 30% degraded non-SSSI Upland Flushes, Fens & Swamps to "Good Condition".	✓
	UF2.1: To move 12% of SSSI Upland Flushes, Fens & Swamps in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition by 2016.	✓
<b>Upland Hay Meadow</b>	UH1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Upland Hay Meadow in "Good Condition". Target = 97%	✓✓
	UH1.2: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Upland Hay Meadow in "Good Condition". Target = 40%	X
	UH1.3: To enhance 12% of degraded non-SSSI Upland Hay Meadow to "Good Condition".	✓
	UH2.1: To move 12% of SSSI Upland Hay Meadow in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition by 2016.	✓
	UH3.1: Re-establish 10ha of Upland Hay Meadow from improved grassland between 2010 and 2016.	✓✓
<b>Upland Heathland</b>	UH1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Upland Heathland in "Good Condition". Target = 98%	✓✓
	UH1.2: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Upland Heathland in "Good Condition". Target = 17%	✓✓
	UH1.3: To enhance 8% of degraded non-SSSI Upland Heathland to "Good Condition".	✓
	UH2.1: To move 12% of SSSI Upland Heathland in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition by 2016.	✓

**Table 4: Species Action Plan Targets due to be achieved by 2016**

SPECIES	CURRENT ACTION	STATUS
<b>Amphibians</b>	CT1.1: Establish baseline population & trend monitoring by promoting recording these species and other amphibians in ten 1km squares each year.	X
<b>Bryophytes</b>		
<b>Nowell's Limestone Moss</b>	NLM1.1: Encourage land managers at extant sites to manage habitat appropriately, given the species vulnerability to disturbance, nutrient enrichment and pollution through ordinary management operations.	✓
	NLM2.1: Establish a survey and monitoring programme.	✓✓
<b>Other Bryophytes: Incurved Feather-Moss Long-Leaved Flapwort Slender Thread-Moss Yorkshire Feather-Moss</b>	OM1.1: Continue surveying historic sites in YDNP.	✓
<b>Other Bryophytes:</b>	OM1.2: Continue trend monitoring programme.	✓
<b>Birds</b>		
<b>Twite</b>	TW1.2: Re-visit historic sites to determine current status by 2016.	✓✓
<b>Red Grouse</b>	RG1.2: Continue legal predator control. On-going.	✓✓
<b>House Sparrow</b>	HS1.1: To provide positive management recommendations for house sparrows in building design and maintenance by implementing guidelines in YDNPA Design Guide.	✓
<b>Starling</b>	SL1.1: Ensure guidance provided for all building alteration and new built planning applications.	✓
	SL1.3: Determine the presence of any large winter roosts. [public survey].	X
<b>Ring Ouzel</b>	RZ1.1: Determine feasibility of undertaking one local study.	✓✓
<b>Lapwing</b>	LP1.1: In addition to implementing upland and lowland calcareous grassland, upland and lowland hay meadows HAPs investigate appropriate management of non HAP pastures.	✓✓
	LP1.2: To continue monitoring.	✓✓
<b>Hen Harrier</b>	HH1.1.1: To reduce illegal killing throughout the year through enhanced crime prevention and enforcement measures and increased public awareness.	X
	HH1.3: To increase monitoring of winter roost sites.	✓
	HH1.4: To undertake survey work in potential breeding areas including delivery of national survey in 2016 .	✓✓
<b>Other birds</b>	OB1.1: Continue monitoring using BBS.	✓✓
	OB1.2: Undertake appropriate single species surveys for Wood Warbler, Black Grouse and Yellow Wagtail.	✓✓
<b>Combined Invertebrates SAPs</b>		
<b>Caterpillar-hunter Beetle</b>	LS1.1: Establish baseline population & trend monitoring by promoting recording of Caterpillar-hunter Beetle.	X
<b>Violet Oil Beetle</b>	VO1.1: Re-survey known site.	X
<b>Butterflies</b>	BUT3.1: Continue with monitoring program for Northern Brown Argus, Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary and Small Heath.	✓✓

SPECIES	CURRENT ACTION	STATUS
Northern Yellow Splinter Fly	NYS1.1: Determine the presence of Northern Yellow Splinter at the one known site.	X
Fungi	FU1: Continue implementation of survey and monitoring of Beautiful Bonnet, Date-coloured Waxcap, Fen Puffball and Dark-purple Earthtongue including habitat assessment at known sites.	✓✓
Money spiders	MS1.1 To devise and implement a monitoring programme for <i>Monocephalus castaneipes</i> and <i>Semljicola caliginosus</i> .	✓
Moths	MO1.1: Determine which species can be effectively monitored by increasing the number of records submitted to the National Macro-moth recording scheme.	✓✓
	MO1.2: Need to encourage further survey to gain a better understanding of distribution of Forester adjacent to only known site.	✓
Lichens	LIC1.1: Continue with survey and monitoring requirements of seven lichen species including habitat assessment at known sites and undertake appropriate survey work.	X
<b>Mammals</b>		
Dormice	DM1.1: Continue with National Dormouse monitoring Programme at Freeholders Wood.	✓✓
Bats	BAT1.1: Continued protection of known roosts.	✓
Other mammals	OM1.1: Identify and promote appropriate surveys in the YDNP.	✓✓
<b>Mollusca</b>		
Round mouthed whorl snail	RMWS1.1: To continue monitoring programme for round-mouthed whorl snail.	✓
Reptiles	RE1.1: Establish baseline population & trend monitoring by promoting recording of these species in ten 1km squares each year.	X
<b>Vascular plants</b>		
Juniper	CJ1.1: Continue trend monitoring on a sample of known sites and populations.	X <sup>1</sup>
	CJ1.2: Apply national management protocol to key sites; ensure grazing is at appropriate levels on all sites by 2016.	X <sup>1</sup>
	CJ1.3 Supply ex-situ seed bank to reinforce highly isolated populations with re-introductions where appropriate.	X <sup>1</sup>
Lady's Slipper Orchid	LSO 1.1: Establish trend monitoring incorporating indicators of self sustaining populations.	✓
	LSO 1.2: Continue an annual programme of species protection and public education.	✓
Yellow Marsh Saxifrage	MS 1.1: Continue annual monitoring.	✓✓
Yellow Marsh Saxifrage	MS 1.2: Ensure the population receives the levels of light grazing appropriate for its long-term survival.	✓
Narrow Small Reed	NSR1.1: Continue population & trend monitoring at Malham Tarn NNR.	✓
Other Vascular plants	OVP1.1: Continue population & trend monitoring by promoting recording.	✓

<sup>1</sup>Since the confirmation of *Phytophthora austrocedri* in wild Juniper populations in 2014, national guidance recommended that monitoring has been on hold as precautionary measure. No other management actions were undertaken between 2014 and 2016.

**Table 5: The area (ha) and condition of LBAP Priority Habitats in the Yorkshire Dales National Park**

Habitat	Within SSSIs			Outside SSSIs			Total		Trend since 2013
	Area	Area in favourable or recovering condition	% in favourable or recovering condition	Area	Area in condition 'A'	% in condition 'A'	Area	% in 'good condition'	
Hedgerows *	0	0	0	1	0	8	1	8	-
Mesotrophic Lakes ▪	92	61	66	0	0	0	92	66	-
Ponds *	0	0	0	4	2	54	4	54	↓
Rivers **	0	0	0	3,129	1,264	40	3,129	40	↑
Blanket Bog *	23,128	22,086	95	5,042	310	6	28,170	80	↓
Calaminarian Grassland *	49	49	100	40	36	90	89	96	↑
Inland rocks and scree *	0	0	0	13	5	39	13	39	↑
Limestone Pavement *	705	555	79	72	28	38	777	75	↓
Lowland Calcareous Grassland *	1,156	1,075	93	66	49	74	1,223	92	↑
Lowland Fens *	463	463	100	18	15	82	481	99	-
Lowland meadows *	190	186	98	47	29	61	237	90	↑
Lowland raised bogs *	72	72	100	0	0	0	72	100	↑
Native woodland*	836	789	94	188	34	18	1,024	80	↓
Upland Calcareous Grassland *	4,114	4,028	98	689	270	39	4,803	89	↓
Upland Flushes, Fens & Swamps *	898	810	90	333	12	4	1,231	67	↑
Upland hay meadow *∞	247	240	97	176	64	36	423	72	↓
Upland heathland *	10,692	10,432	98	645	229	36	11,337	94	↓

\* Habitat Survey Reports 2010-2016.

▪ The condition of Semerwater and Malham Tarn was taken from Natural England website.

\*\* The river assessment used data from the Water Framework Directive and the Joint Nature Conservancy Council. Length measured in km and does not include headwaters.

∞ The Hay Time Project has restored 174 ha of Hay Meadow.

**Table 6: The number of LBAP Priority Species that are ‘stable’, ‘increasing’ or ‘declining’ in the Yorkshire Dales National Park**

Stable/Increasing/Declining = where there is sufficient data to determine a population trend.

No trend = where a baseline has been established but sample sizes are small and so any trend is indicative, or where repeat surveys have not yet been undertaken to determine a trend.

No baseline = where records are too irregular either in terms of location and/or reports that it is not feasible to establish an appropriate monitoring program and/or determine current status.

SPECIES	TREND
<b>Amphibians</b>	
Common Toad <i>Bufo bufo</i>	No baseline
Great Crested Newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i>	Stable
<b>Beetles</b>	
Lesser Searcher <i>Calosoma inquisitor</i>	No baseline
Violet Oil-beetle <i>Meloe violaceus</i>	Declining
<b>Birds</b>	
Sky Lark <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Increasing
Tree Pipit <i>Anthus trivialis</i>	No trend
Lesser Redpoll <i>Carduelis cabaret</i>	No trend
Common Linnet <i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	No trend
Twite <i>Carduelis flavirostris</i>	No trend
Common Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	No trend
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	No baseline
Reed Bunting <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	No trend
Red Grouse <i>Lagopus lagopus</i>	Stable
Common Grasshopper Warbler <i>Locustella naevia</i>	No baseline
Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava</i>	Declining
Spotted Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	No trend
Eurasian Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	Stable
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	No trend
Grey Partridge <i>Perdix perdix</i>	No trend
Wood Warbler <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	Declining
Marsh Tit <i>Poecile palustris</i>	No baseline
Common Bullfinch <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	No baseline
Common Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	No trend
Black Grouse <i>Tetrao tetrix</i>	Stable
Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	No trend
Ring Ouzel <i>Turdus torquatus</i>	Stable
Northern Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Increasing
<b>Bryophytes</b>	
Long-leaved Flapwort <i>Jungermannia leiantha (Liochlaena lanceolata)</i>	No trend
Slender Thread-moss <i>Orthodontium gracile</i>	No trend

SPECIES	TREND
Incurved Feather-moss <i>Homomallium incurvatum</i>	No trend
Yorkshire Feather-moss <i>Thamnobryum cataractarum</i>	Stable
Nowell's Limestone Moss <i>Zygodon gracilis</i>	No trend
<b>Butterflies</b>	
Northern Brown Argus <i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>	Stable
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary <i>Boloria selene</i>	
Small Heath <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	Stable
Wall <i>Lasiommata megera</i>	No baseline
White Letter Hairstreak <i>Satyrium w-album</i>	No baseline
<b>Crustaceans</b>	
White-clawed crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>	Declining
<b>Flies</b>	
Northern Yellow Splinter Fly <i>Lipsothrix errans</i>	No baseline
<b>Fungi</b>	
Beautiful Bonnet <i>Mycenae renati</i>	No baseline
Date-Coloured Waxcap <i>Hygrocybe spadicea</i>	No baseline
Fen Puffball <i>Bovista paludosa</i>	No baseline
Dark-purple Earthtongue <i>Geoglossum atropurpureum</i>	No baseline
<b>Lichens</b>	
<i>Anaptychia ciliaris</i> subsp. <i>ciliaris</i>	No baseline
<i>Bacidia incompta</i>	No baseline
<i>Caloplaca flavorubescens</i>	No baseline
Orange-Fruited Elm-lichen <i>Caloplaca luteoalba</i>	No baseline
<i>Gyalecta ulmi</i>	No baseline
<i>Poeltinula cerebrina</i>	No baseline
<i>Toninia sedifolia</i>	No baseline
<b>Mammals</b>	
West European Hedgehog <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	No baseline
Brown Hare <i>Lepus europaeus</i>	No baseline
Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	Stable
Dormouse <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	Increasing
Noctule bat <i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	No trend
Soprano Pipistrelle bat <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	No trend
Brown long-eared bat <i>Plecotus auritus</i>	No trend
Red Squirrel <i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	Stable
<b>Molluscs</b>	
Fine-lined Pea Mussel <i>Pisidium tenuilineatum</i>	Stable
Round-mouthed Whorl Snail <i>Vertigo genesii</i>	Stable
<b>Moths</b>	
Ghost Moth <i>Hepialus humuli</i>	Stable
Pale Eggar <i>Trichiura crataegi</i>	Stable

SPECIES	TREND
Oblique Carpet <i>Orthonama vittata</i>	Stable
Shaded Broad-bar <i>Scotopteryx chenopodiata</i>	Stable
Galium Carpet <i>Epirrhoe galiata</i>	No baseline
Dark Spinach <i>Pelurga comitata</i>	No baseline
Spinach <i>Eulithis mellinata</i>	Declining
Small Phoenix <i>Ecliptopera silaceata</i>	Stable
Latticed Heath <i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>	Declining
Dusky Thorn <i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>	Increasing
September Thorn <i>Ennomos erosaria</i>	No baseline
Figure of Eight <i>Diloba caeruleocephala</i>	No baseline
Garden Tiger <i>Arctia caja</i>	Stable
White Ermine <i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>	Stable
Buff Ermine <i>Spilosoma luteum</i>	Stable
Cinnabar <i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>	Stable
Garden Dart <i>Euxoa nigricans</i>	No baseline
Double Dart <i>Graphiphora augur</i>	No baseline
Autumnal Rustic <i>Eugnorisma glareosa</i>	Stable
Small Square-spot <i>Diarsia rubi</i>	Stable
Neglected Rustic <i>Xestia castanea</i>	No baseline
Heath Rustic <i>Xestia agathina</i>	No baseline
Dot Moth <i>Melanchra persicariae</i>	No baseline
Broom Moth <i>Ceramica pisi</i>	Stable
Hedge Rustic <i>Tholera cespitis</i>	No baseline
Powdered Quaker <i>Orthosia gracilis</i>	Stable
Minor Shoulder-knot <i>Brachylomia viminalis</i>	No baseline
Sprawler <i>Asteroscopus sphinx</i>	No baseline
Brindled Ochre <i>Dasypolia templi</i>	Stable
Green-brindled Crescent <i>Allophyes oxyacanthae</i>	Stable
Dark Brocade <i>Mniotype adusta</i>	Stable
Flounced Chestnut <i>Agrochola helvola</i>	No baseline
Brown-spot Pinion <i>Agrochola litura</i>	No baseline
Centre-barred Sallow <i>Atethmia centrago</i>	Stable
Grey Dagger <i>Acrionicta psi</i>	No baseline
Knot Grass <i>Acrionicta rumicis</i>	Stable
Mouse Moth <i>Amphipyra tragopoginis</i>	No baseline
Dusky Brocade <i>Apamea remissa</i>	Stable
<b>Moth species requiring targeted trapping</b>	
Red Carpet <i>Xanthorhoe decoloraria</i>	Stable
Grey Mountain Carpet <i>Entephria caesiata</i>	Declining
Grass Rivulet <i>Perizoma albulata</i>	No baseline
V-moth <i>Macaria wauaria</i>	No baseline

SPECIES	TREND
Anomalous <i>Stilbia anomala</i>	Stable
<b>Moth species requiring trapping at specific sites</b>	
Forester <i>Adscita statices</i>	
Barred Tooth-striped <i>Trichopteryx polycommata</i>	Stable
<b>Reptiles</b>	
Slow Worm <i>Anguis fragilis</i>	No baseline
Adder <i>Vipera berus</i>	No baseline
Common Lizard <i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	No baseline
Grass Snake <i>Natrix natrix</i>	No baseline
<b>Spiders</b>	
A money spider <i>Monocephalus castaneipes</i>	No trend
A money spider <i>Semljicola caliginosus</i>	Declining
<b>Vascular Plants</b>	
Burnt orchid <i>Orchis ustulata</i>	Stable
<i>Euphrasia rostkoviana</i> subsp. <i>Montana</i>	Declining
Flat-sedge <i>Blysmus compressus</i>	Stable
Frog Orchid <i>Coeloglossum viride</i>	Stable
Field Gentian <i>Gentianella campestris</i>	Declining
Holly Fern <i>Polystichum lonchitis</i>	No baseline
Common Juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i>	Declining
Lady's Slipper-orchid <i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>	Stable
Lesser Butterfly-orchid <i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	No baseline
Narrow Small-reed <i>Calamagrostis stricta</i>	Stable
Northern Hawk`s-beard <i>Crepis mollis</i>	Stable
Yellow Marsh Saxifrage <i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>	Stable
Small White-orchid <i>Pseudorchis albida</i>	Stable

**Table 7: Comparison of SSSI habitat condition (%) rated 'Favourable' between 2013 and 2016**

HABITAT	2013	2016	Indicative Trend
Hedgerows	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mesotrophic Lakes	66	N/A	N/A
Ponds	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rivers	29	N/A	N/A
Blanket Bog	10	15	Increasing
Calaminarian Grassland	N/A	91	N/A
Inland Rocks And Scree	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limestone Pavement	31	15	Declining
Lowland Calcareous Grassland	100	39	Declining
Lowland Fens	46	68	Increasing
Lowland Meadows	96	60	Declining
Lowland Raised Bogs	N/A	13	N/A
Native Woodland	29	45	Increasing
Upland Calcareous Grassland	21	24	Stable
Upland Flushes, Fens & Swamps	28	30	Stable
Upland Hay Meadow	70	71	Stable
Upland Heathland	28	35	Increasing

**Table 8: Comparison of non SSSI habitat condition (%) rated 'A' between 2013 and 2016**

HABITAT	2013	2016	Indicative Trend
Hedgerows	0	0	N/A
Mesotrophic Lakes	0	0	N/A
Ponds	79	54	Declining
Rivers	N/A	40	N/A
Blanket Bog	1	6	Increasing
Calaminarian Grassland	90	90	Stable
Inland Rocks And Scree	11	39	Increasing
Limestone Pavement	36	38	Stable
Lowland Calcareous Grassland	77	74	Stable
Lowland Fens	83	82	Stable
Lowland Meadows	26	61	Increasing
Lowland Raised Bogs	0	0	N/A
Native Woodland	24	18	Declining
Upland Calcareous Grassland	44	39	Stable
Upland Flushes, Fens & Swamps	3	4	Stable
Upland Hay Meadow	9	36	Increasing
Upland Heathland	5	36	Increasing