

Nature in the Dales:

2020 vision

The second Biodiversity Action Plan for the
Yorkshire Dales National Park

Blanket Bog Habitat Action Plan

Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum, 2011
Amended Feb 2015

BLANKET BOG HABITAT ACTION PLAN

DEFINITIONS

The term blanket 'bog' strictly applies only to that portion of a blanket 'mire' which is exclusively rain-fed. However, for the purposes of this plan the terms 'bog' and 'mire' will be regarded as more or less synonymous. Blanket bog is a globally restricted peatland habitat confined to cool, wet, typically oceanic climates. It is, however, one of the most extensive semi-natural habitats in the UK and ranges from Devon in the south to Shetland in the north. Peat depth is also very variable, with an average of 0.5-3m being fairly typical but depths in excess of 5m not unusual. There is no agreed minimum depth of peat which can support blanket bog vegetation. It includes the EC Habitats Directive priority habitat 'active' blanket bog, the definition of active being given as 'still supporting a significant area of vegetation that is normally peat forming'.

The principal vegetation (National Vegetation Classification) types covered by this plan are M1, M2, M3, M15, M17, M18, M19 and M20 together with their intermediates.

STATUS IN YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK 2011

ESTIMATED AREA IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK IN "GOOD CONDITION"

SSSI (Favourable, Unfavourable-recovering):	97%
Non-SSSI (Condition A):	21%
Total (SSSI Favourable, Unfavourable-recovering, Non-SSSI A):	57%

UK & REGIONAL BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 2011

UK BAP Targets	Priority Actions for YDNP LBAP
Maintain at least 2,209,000ha of blanket mire in the UK by 2010.	Yes
A total of 430,991ha of blanket bog, within A/SSSIs, in the UK, to be in favourable or unfavourable recovering condition by 2015.	Yes
Achieve a measurable increase in the extent of blanket bog outside A/SSSIs in favourable or unfavourable recovering condition by 2015.	Yes

Regional Biodiversity Targets	Priority Actions for YDNP LBAP
Achieve Condition of 46956ha of SSSI by 2015 (requiring 39641.3ha additional gain).	Yes
Non-SSSI - Area as of yet unspecified.	Yes

**NATURE IN THE DALES: 2020 VISION
OBJECTIVES, ACTIONS, TARGETS & MILESTONES**

Objective

- BB1:** To have 95% of Blanket Bog in “Good Condition” (Favourable, Unfavourable-Recovering in SSSI, A outside SSSI) by 2020.
- BB2:** To move 25% of SSSI Blanket Bog in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition by 2020

Actions & Targets

Actions	Target (% of total target)	Main Delivery Mechanism	Lead Organisation	Indicator
BB1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Blanket Bog in “Good Condition”.	97%	Agri-environment schemes	Natural England	Area of habitat in “Good Condition”
BB1.2: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Blanket Bog in “Good Condition”.	21%			
BB1.3: To enhance degraded non-SSSI Blanket Bog to “Good Condition”.	40%	Yorkshire Peat Partnership	Yorkshire Peat Partnership	
BB2.1: To move 25% of SSSI Blanket Bog in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition by 2020.	25%	Yorkshire Peat Partnership	Yorkshire Peat Partnership	

Milestones

Actions	Target	When?
BB1.1: Maintain existing area of SSSI Blanket Bog in “Good Condition”.	97%	Ongoing
BB1.2: Maintain existing area of non-SSSI Blanket Bog in “Good Condition”.	21%	Ongoing
BB1.3: To enhance degraded non-SSSI Blanket Bog to “Good Condition”.	20%	2016
	40%	2020
BB2.1: To move 25% of SSSI Blanket Bog in Unfavourable-Recovering Condition to Favourable Condition by 2020.	12%	2016
	25%	2020

Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision was written and co-ordinated by Tim Thom, Ian Court, Frances Graham & Hannah Fawcett of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in 2011, following consultation. The production of the plan was steered, advised and supported by the Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum who will be responsible for ensuring that the actions and targets in *Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision* are achieved. Minor revisions made Feb 2015.

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