

SBS 2020 Challenge: Cairngorms National Park Authority Delivery Agreement table

Big Steps for Nature		Contributing action		
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION 2020 Challenge Outcome: Scotland's ecosystems are restored to good health so that they provide robust ecosystem services and build our natural capital		CNPA's Overall role: Provide a common vision and focus for conservation at a landscape scale through a collaborative and co-ordinated approach to ecosystems management	Priority Projects: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restoration of peatlands 2. Restoration of native woodland 3. Restoration of freshwaters 	Targets: Ambitious peatland restoration programme underway Increase the amount of native woodland in good condition 3,000 to 5,000ha of new woodland creation pa Restore approx 10,000ha native woodland Achieve agreed ecological water quality objectives under the WFD
1.1	Encourage and support ecosystem restoration and management, especially in catchments that have experienced greatest degradation	Restore 2,000ha of peatland; 25ha of wetland and 100km of riparian planting and more naturalised river systems Create 5,000ha of new native woodland, spatially co-ordinate woodland enhancement and lead on a landscape scale montane scrub restoration project Support collaborative management planning and explore opportunities for native woodland regeneration through Deer Management Groups and moorland management initiatives		
1.3	Government and public bodies will work together towards a shared agenda for action to restore ecosystem health at a catchment scale across Scotland	Co-ordinate the National Park Partnership Plan and Cairngorms Nature Partnership through which partners focus biodiversity effort on key priorities – principally large scale habitat enhancement and priority species conservation. Support catchment initiatives on the rivers Spey, Dee and South Esk		
1.4	Establish plans and decisions about land use based on an understanding of ecosystems and take full account of land use impacts on the ecosystem services that underpin social, economic and environmental health.	Encourage collaborative and practical research on ecosystems management through the National Park research strategy		

INVESTMENT IN NATURAL CAPITAL		CNPA's Overall role:	Priority project:	Target:
2020 Challenge outcome: Natural resources contribute to stronger sustainable economic growth in Scotland and we increase our natural capital to pass onto the next generation.		Identify opportunities to trial natural capital valuation and payment schemes	4. securing economic benefits from, and investment in, natural capital	Businesses are more aware of their reliance on, and more investment is being made in, Scotland's natural capital
2.2	Use this index to influence decision-making and market-based approaches, so that wider monetary and non-monetary values for ecosystems are recognised and accounted for.	Encourage and support businesses to safeguard and build on natural capital through delivery of the Cairngorms Economic Strategy		
2.3	Undertake a major programme of peatland conservation, management and restoration	Restore 2,000 ha of peatland		
QUALITY GREENSPACE FOR HEALTH AND EDUCATION BENEFITS		CNPA's Overall role:	Priority projects:	Target:
2020 Challenge outcome: Improved health and quality of life for the people of Scotland, through investment in the care of green space, nature and landscapes		Connect people with nature through improving and promoting physical infrastructure, co-ordinating ranger services and as the local access authority	5. More people experiencing and enjoying nature 6. Taking learning outdoors 7. Active Cairngorms - Developing Scotland's <i>natural</i> health service	Increase regular visits and active travel in greenspace through improved infrastructure, information, and campaigns, and the provision of activities and events
3.1	Provide opportunities for everyone to experience and enjoy nature regularly, with a particular focus on disadvantaged groups	Co-ordinate the activities of 12 ranger services in the Park, providing ranger bases, interpretation, education and visitor management focussed in areas of high recreation demand Train 12 participants from multicultural backgrounds in bringing community groups out into nature via supporting the Community Leadership Project with Backbone 2015-17 Promote the John Muir Award to disadvantaged groups		
3.2	Support local authorities and communities to improve local environments and enhance biodiversity using green space and green networks, allowing nature to flourish and so enhancing the quality of life for people who live there	Deliver greenspace objectives through the Local Development Plan Develop a community based volunteer ranger programme		
3.3	Build on good practice being developed by the National Health Service (NHS) and others to help encourage greenspace, green exercise and social prescribing initiatives that will improve health and	Develop and deliver an 'Active Cairngorms' strategy and campaign to increase participation in outdoor activity. Deliver 5,000 Health walks; extend the Speyside Way by 15 miles and the Deeside way by 17 miles; develop and improve 65 miles of core paths; complete active travel audits and action plans in 8		

	wellbeing through connecting people with nature	communities; bring 100% of core paths into reasonable condition; develop Cycle Friendly Communities along the Highland main railway line.		
3.4	Increase access to nature within and close to schools, and support teachers in developing the role of outdoor learning across the Curriculum for Excellence.	Promote and manage the delivery of 10,000 John Muir Awards Deliver CPD through local authority outdoor learning strategy groups and national events through Education Scotland.		
3.5	Encourage public organisations and businesses to review their responsibilities and action for biodiversity, and recognise that increasing their positive contribution to nature and landscapes can help meet their corporate priorities and performance.	Encourage and support businesses to safeguard and build on natural capital through delivery of the Cairngorms Economic Strategy Capitalise on the strong international recognition of National Parks as places for outstanding wildlife through use of the CNP brand.		
CONSERVING WILDLIFE IN SCOTLAND 2020 Challenge outcome: The special value and international importance of Scotland's nature and geodiversity is assured, wildlife is faring well, and we have a highly effective network of protected places.		CNPA's Overall role: Set the management of designated sites and species in a wider landscape-scale context and vision	Priority projects: 8. Protected areas in good condition 9. Conservation of priority species	Target: At least 80% of designated 'features' in favourable condition by 2016 6 high profile wildlife projects underway in 2015, with a further suite of species projects to be developed
4.1	Ensure that the management of protected places for nature also provides wider public benefits.	Co-ordinate the delivery of a strategy, through the Cairngorm and Glenmore Partnership, for the publicly owned land at Cairngorm and Glenmore to improve the quality of the visitor experience, sense of place and the environment and maintain the integrity of designated sites. Reduce the environmental impact of outdoor recreation on conservation priorities through delivery of the Active Cairngorms strategy		
4.2	Align habitat restoration on protected areas with national goals for improving ecosystem health, with local priorities determined at the catchment or landscape scales.	Spatially target and prioritise habitat restoration opportunities to create more robust, resilient and healthy ecosystems connecting protected areas and target SRDP funding to priority areas.		
4.3	Integrate protected areas policy with action for wider habitats to combat fragmentation and restore key habitats.	Implement a capercaillie management framework that integrates protected areas into a wider context, notably for woodland expansion, and guides future management measures		

4.4	Develop a wildlife management framework to address the key priorities for sustainable species management, conservation and conflict issues, including reintroductions and invasive non-native species.	With the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, further explore the potential for, and the implications of, either a trial or full reintroduction of beaver and crane Develop and support a landowner-led initiative delivering positive management for raptors Co-ordinate, support and deliver projects to safeguard populations of Cairngorms Nature Action Plan priority species		
4.5	Involve many more people than at present in this work and improve our understanding of the poorly known elements of nature.	Work with 5 communities to develop projects that encourage and enable residents to value and realise the benefits from local natural heritage assets Promote the National Park as an area for research on climate change impacts and adaptations.		
SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LAND AND FRESHWATER 2020 Challenge outcome: Nature is faring well, and ecosystems are resilient as a result of sustainable land and water management		CNPA's Overall role: Build in the principles for sustainable land use in plans and decision making by encouraging partnership working across land-use sectors, across management boundaries and with the public, private and third sectors	Priority projects: 10. Improving ecological connection 11. Sustainable land management	Target: Improve connectivity between habitats and ecosystems Promotion of measures to support biodiversity under CAP. A suite of sites demonstrating good practice aimed at supporting wildlife
5.1	Promote an ecosystem approach to land management that fosters sustainable use of natural resources and puts biodiversity at the heart of land-use planning and decision-making.	Support collaborative management planning through the Deer Management Groups, Catchment management partnerships and Landscape Partnership. Support collaborative management planning and explore opportunities for native woodland regeneration through Deer Management Groups and moorland management initiatives		
5.2	Ensure that measures taken forward under the Common Agricultural Policy encourage land managers to develop and retain the diversity of wildlife habitats and landscape features.	Spatially target and prioritise habit creation and enhancement opportunities and target land management advice and support to make most effective use of SRDP Work with farmers to create farm management plans in areas of high biodiversity value		
5.3	Support 'High Nature Value' farming and forestry.	Deliver the Strathspey Wetland and Wader Initiative and expand into other areas of the Park		
5.4	Put in place the management necessary to bring Scotland's protected areas into favourable condition and improve the ecological status of water bodies	Integrate designated site management, support and advice with wider landscape enhancement objectives		
5.5	Ensure that biodiversity and ecosystem objectives are fully integrated into flood risk management plans, and restore wetland habitats and woodlands	Support catchment initiatives on the rivers Spey, Dee and South Esk Demonstrate sustainable flood management via the restoration of 25ha of wetland, 100km of more		

	to provide sustainable flood management.	naturalised rivers and riparian planting and the restoration of 2,000ha of peatland
5.6	Restore and extend natural habitats as a means of building reserves of carbon and to help mitigate climate change.	Create 5,000 ha of new native woodlands, developing woodland corridors including 100km of riparian planting in upper catchments, and areas for species' range expansion
5.7	Provide clear advice to land and water managers on best practice.	Target and co-ordinate land management advice and support staff with partner agencies to deliver priorities and collaborate on resources