



**Delivering Through Partnership:
The Humberhead Levels Wetland Vision
Scheme**

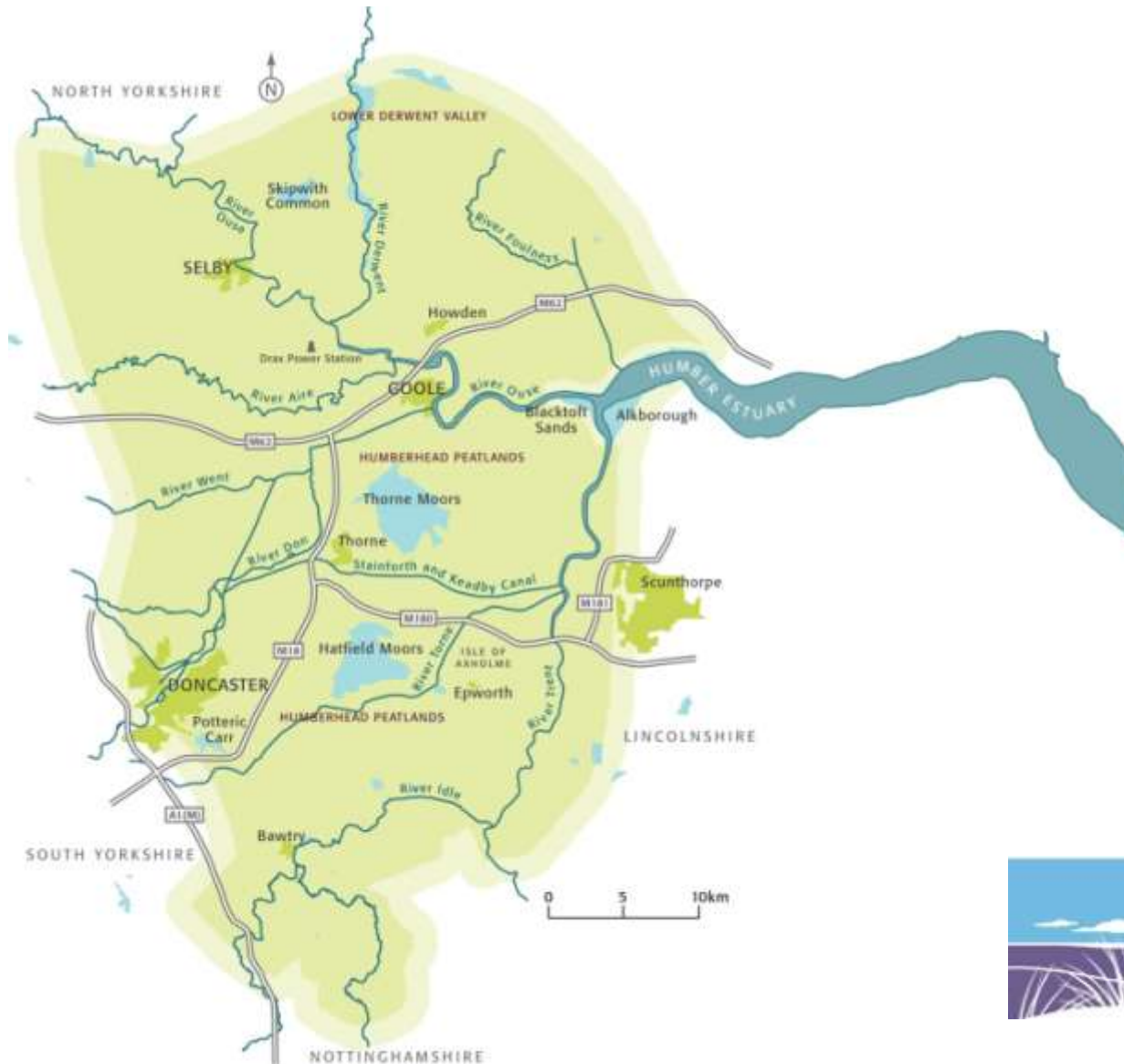
Sue Plaxton, Natural England

Aim:

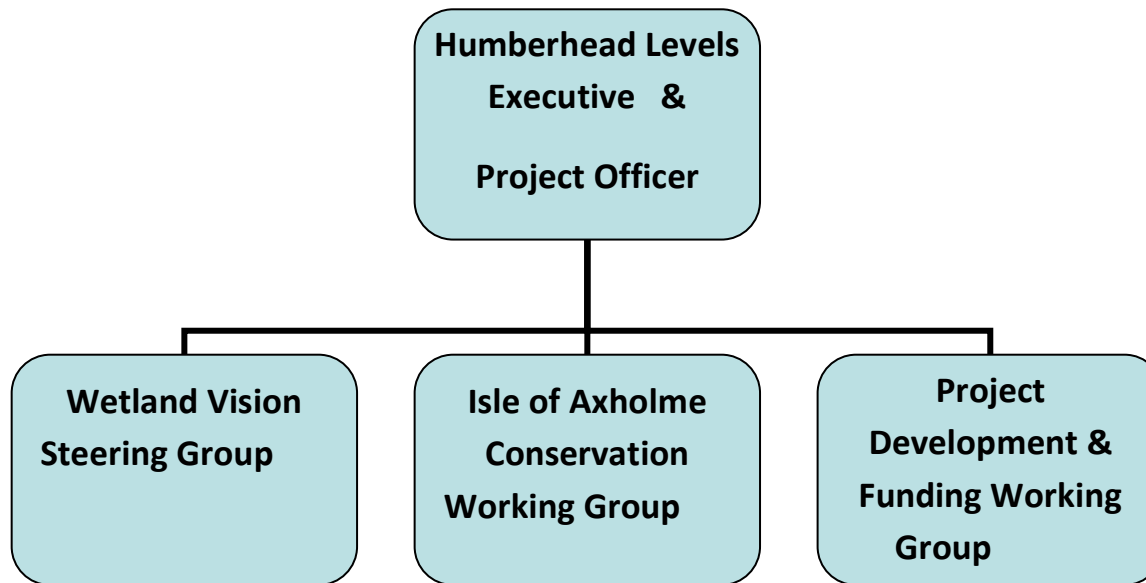


- How working in ***partnership*** is key to delivering landscape-Scale projects (Wetland Vision) in the Humberhead Levels
- How the partnership through Wetland Vision is helping the Humberhead Peatlands NNR to achieve favourable condition.
- How Wetland Vision was the catalyst for the partnership to develop landscape-scale plans in the Humberhead Levels.

Humberhead Levels



Partnership Structure





Partners

Natural England (lead partner)

Environment Agency

English Heritage

North Lincolnshire Council

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

RSPB

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust

Internal Drainage Boards

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Inspiring landscapes
and vibrant communities
in a changing climate



To create an internationally renowned, unique wetland landscape, supporting thriving communities and wildlife



The Humberhead Levels Partnership Aims



- *Support local and regional economies*
- *Deliver sustainable land and water management to mitigate the effects of climate change*
- *Promote the Humberhead Levels as an 'outdoor classroom'*
- *Raise the profile of the Partnership*

Background:

- Humberhead Levels NCA – 2000 sq km
- 6300 ha of peat in Humberhead Levels
- 3,300 ha – Humberhead Peatlands National Nature Reserve
- Remaining underlying peat is farmed – grade 1 agricultural land
- Cropping patterns - relatively high presence of potatoes, field vegetables and salads.
- Irrigation and pump drainage
- Restoration of areas to floodplain and fen lagg, with some wet grassland, including flood storage

Humberhead Peatlands NNR Conservation Objectives



- NNR – degraded peat bog due to commercial peat extraction
- Restore & maintain lowland raised mire over greater part of the NNR
- Maintain & develop full range of habitats: raised mire, poor fen, wet woodland, open water, wet heath
- Maintain/enhance the population of nightjar in & around the NNR
- Develop active wider area programme to support nature conservation objectives of the site



Humberhead Levels Wetland Vision Scheme



Humberhead Levels Wetland Vision Scheme



Offered £592,000 over 2 years bringing in additional £1,011,804 match funding from partners for landscape-scale wetland creation/restoration

Projects - 7 land acquisitions for habitat creation, 1 habitat creation project and the appointment of 2 ½ project officer posts

Created & restored 165 hectares of wetland BAP habitat (28.4 directly around the NNR) helping to create a buffer zone

Wetland Vision Project Officers



The project officers role was to:

- Meet farmers and landowners promoting the HLS.
- Hold farm demonstration events
- Work closely with NE land management teams to ensure strategic targeting of HLS



The Humberhead Levels Natural and Recreational Assets

Scale 1:62,500
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 OS Reference Number: 4, 4004, 2016, 00



- Key**
- Transpirene Trail @ Statens
 - Peatlands Way @ Yorks. Wildlife Trust
 - Woodland Mineral Linc @ Yorks. Wildlife Trust
 - British Waterways Canals @ British Waterways
 - Main Rivers @ Environment Agency
 - Wetland Vision Project Sites @ Natural England
 - Yorkshire Wildlife Trust reserves @ YWT
 - Woodland Trust reserves @ Woodland Trust
 - RSPB reserves @ RSPB
 - Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust Reserves @ NWT
 - Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust Reserves @ LWT
 - Altoncough Flats @ Natural England
 - Sites of Special Scientific Interest @ Natural England
 - Nature Reserves @ Natural England
 - Humberhead Peatland National Character Area @ Natural England
 - Fuzzy boundary
 - Estuary/Sea @ Ordnance Survey

- Label Site**
- 1 Crake Moors (LWT)
 - 2 Epworth Historic town
 - 3 Hethley Meads
 - 4 Haxey and Epworth Tarnsires NR
 - 5 Malmsley Trench
 - 6 Farnley Gap (YWT)
 - 7 Selby Alkars
 - 8 Selby Historic town
 - 9 Cooke Wharfedale Museum
 - 10 Site of Ancient Woodland strip fields
 - 11 Skapwith Common nature reserve
 - 12 Tadmor Meads
 - 13 Ebleby village
 - 14 Site Valley Rural Learning Centre and NR (NWT)
 - 15 Rush Farming (LWT)
 - 16 Sedge Hole Chase (LWT)
 - 17 Longholme Wood (LWT)
 - 18 Mason Carr 1530 Nature Reserve (NWT)
 - 19 Windholme Ings (YWT)
 - 20 North Cave Wetlands (YWT)
 - 21 Farn Clee (YWT)
 - 22 Heaylth Meadows (YWT)
 - 23 Selwicks Dale (YWT)
 - 24 Thospe Marsh (YWT)
 - 25 Wain Cover (YWT)
 - 26 Altoncough Flats
 - 27 Horncliffe Country Park
 - 28 Rouths Holby
 - 29 Doncaster Hall and Gardens
 - 30 Southwood
 - 31 Old Moor (RSPB)
 - 32 Densley Ings (YWT)
 - 33 Blackthorn Sands (RSPB)
 - 34 Cusworth Hall
 - 35 The Dove Gorge including Spolborough Flats
 - 36 Farnham Ings (RSPB)
 - 37 The Ings (LWT)
 - 38 Market Woodhouse
 - 39 Jubb's Dover Tuff Maze



Outcomes for Humberhead Peatlands NNR

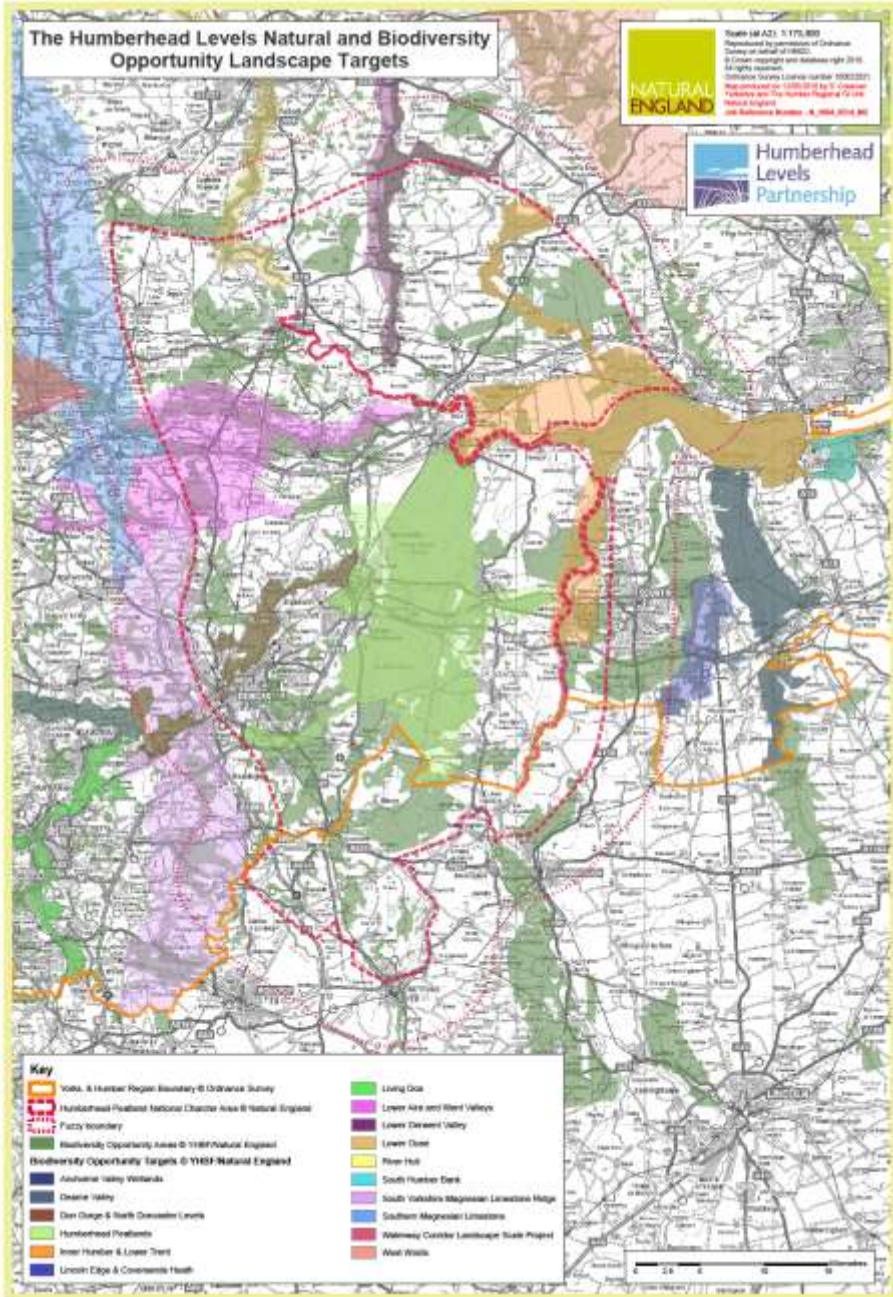


- Increase in land ownership to buffer and ensure better results for SSSI condition
- Reducing amount of intensively managed land directly adjoining the NNR
- Encouraged farmers to join HLS particularly where land was unsuitable for crops
- Sharing of knowledge and expertise – range of partners RSPB/EA/Burnet Trust/YWT/LWT/NWT

What of The Future?



- Wetland Vision has provided a strong platform to build on by helping the partners to deliver projects on the ground.
- Inspired the development of plans to do more around the biodiversity opportunity areas - Humberhead Peatlands & nearby Inner Humber, Lower Trent – workshops held/new project delivery plan created
- Potential to apply for various funding schemes as a package i.e. Local Nature Partnerships, Nature Improvement Areas, HLF & WFD





Thank You!

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