

**Sustainable Land Management Working Group -
Friday 7th May 2019**

Summary Updates

Scottish Landscape Enterprise Networks – *Scottish Natural Heritage*

Landscape Enterprise Networks are business-led initiatives where multiple businesses collaborate to invest in action to maintain or improve the natural capital they jointly rely on.

The BITC Scotland led Waste to Wealth Event provided an opportunity for businesses and members of BITC to find out about using natural capital in their decision making and a collaborative approach. The concept was well received by businesses attending most of which had not heard about natural capital before. There was an interest in further discussion and training on the use of natural capital assessment / accounting and in the LENS

Andrew Griffiths, Nestle, and Lucy Filby, SEPA, commissioned 3Keel to explore business interest in working collaboratively in the area. The first phase gathered background information and held a workshop with a few key interested businesses (January to March 2019). The businesses responded well to the idea of setting up a SW Scotland LENS. The area could extend up to Renfrewshire.

Trial of Natural Capital Protocol Forest Product Sector Guide – *Forestry Commission Scotland & SEPA*

Pat Snowdon, Forestry Commission Scotland, is Chair of a new sub-group of the SLM Working Group looking at potential to use natural capital assessment to inform the forestry sector. The first meeting explored what was already happening and where there were opportunities. Andrew Heald, Confor, agreed to approach some of their members about trialling the Natural Capital Protocol Forest Product Sector Guide. Three businesses have expressed an interest and would like to work collaboratively on developing case studies. The first case study will relate to an existing afforestation project. The group is developing a specification and seeking sources of funding. SEPA has contributed R&D funds.

Natural Capital Protocol trial with dairy business - *Crown Estate Scotland*

This project will extend the Natural Capital Protocol Trial with Land-based Businesses to a dairy tenant of Crown Estate Scotland.

A farmer in the Annan catchment in South West Scotland is participating in the trial. Paul Silcock from Cumulus consultants has undertaken the first site visit and the second visit is due in May. Work now due to complete in June. SEPA has contributed R&D funds.

Scottish Forum on Natural Capital

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Roll out in Crown Estates Scotland – *Crown Estate Scotland*

Following the completion of the Natural Capital Protocol Trial with Land-based Businesses Andy has been in discussion with Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) advisers Iain Riddell and Chloe McCulloch about how to build natural capital assessment into the farm business planning. They suggest that it could be possible to incorporate natural capital assessment into the Integrated Land Management Plans without substantive changes. This type of business planning already receives grant aid from Scottish Government and therefore would help with uptake of natural capital assessment by a wider range of farmers.

Early thoughts on taking this idea forward is to first have a practical workshop to explore if it is possible to incorporate natural capital assessment into Integrated Land Management Plans, with those with experience of implementing them. The outcomes from the workshop can then be discussed with policy people and scheme managers once thoughts are firmed up.

Trial of the Natural Capital Protocol with Upland Moorland Estates - *Heather Trust*

There are estates interested in participating in a trial of the Natural Capital Protocol, however funding has still to be found. The group agreed to wait until after the Grouse Moor Management Review now due to complete in June 2019. The Moorland Forum may provide a route to raise awareness of the idea and explore potential partners.

Mary Christie and Anne Grey will lead setting up a new sub-group to advance discussion of trialling the Protocol on upland moorland