

Background

On the 20th June 2011 the Wild Ennerdale Liaison Group met at the Ennerdale Scout Centre to review the Wild Ennerdale Stewardship Plan.

The Liaison Group is made up of individuals and representatives of organisations who have an interest in the way Ennerdale is managed. This group has been brought together around every 2 years to help the Wild Ennerdale Partners understand how people experience the valley and the changes brought about by

The day consisted of a morning indoor session where the group were asked a number of questions and provided replies on post it notes.

Morning Feedback

To try and tease out the key points and issues the replies to each question have been passed through a free internet tool called Wordle (<http://www.wordle.net/>) Wordle is a tool for generating "word clouds" from text that you provide. The clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the source text by making those words larger and differently coloured.

Some non descriptive words such as valley or boundary and the word Ennerdale were removed from the text submitted to Wordle to unmask the more underlying responses.

The original post it note comments are provided as Appendix 1

The Wordle Pictures are provided as Appendix 2.

Afternoon Feedback

In the afternoon the group visited Heckbarley where the Forestry Commission has been harvesting a significant area of timber and which had no firm prescription, post clear felling, in the initial Wild Ennerdale Stewardship Plan. The group discussed the opportunities for future management and a summary of the main points discussed is provided as appendix 3.

Appendix 1 – Original Post it Responses

Question - What do you think we have achieved?

Website good
Community engagement
Consultation
Public awareness
Continuity engagement
Increased awareness to general public
Treasured by local people
High profile for Wild Ennerdale
Publicity
Local community involved
Facebook page
Created superb brand, can you make it better
MsC project links
Wild Ennerdale volunteer group
Cost effective system
Strong partnership
Improved communication – farmers and agencies
Introduced cows as a management tool for the woodlands
Extensive cattle grazing
Back to natural processes
Native vegetation
Nice Signs
Bank erosion
Open land – fence removal
Less definition – forest and fell
Made judgements – what is wilding – what does it look like in Ennerdale
Introducing the sense of wildness to a wider group of people
Natural way of managing the valley
Removal of some of the hard boundaries
Liza naturalisation
Raised awareness of antiquities
Maintaining tracks and paths
Access
Popular Walks
Traffic free on south side of valley
More access for canoes
Canoeing on lake
Rough roads
Red squirrel conservation
Marsh fritillary, marsh fritillary

More broadleaved trees
Tree and juniper planting
Water quality improved river liza
Reduction in conifers
Removal of a lot of spruce
Removal of non native woodland
Pine martin boxes
Arctic char increase
Gillerthwaite / Gillflinter Beck Trail
Assistance with char project
Improvements in quality of rare habitats (vegetational)
Landscape improvement
Improved natural landscape
Better views
Dramatic landscape improvements – visually
Bog restoration
Long grass meadows

Question - What would you like to see more of?

Community arts partnership
Better links to village
More wider involvement of other communities
Better access links to west coast
More education to sustainability groups of what this means to us
To what extent is there compliance with the equality act
Closer involvement of LDNP
Monitoring
Bird monitoring
Removal of fences on broadmoor conflict with security of minors using campsite
Extending of the valley boundaries
Litter and dog bins
Footpath only signs
Facilities, toilets
Signage
Signs
Clearings / picnic areas
Improved access link for cycling
Cycles for hire (cheaply)
Open access
Footpaths, cycle access
Trails
The lake from campsite

Little seen this side of the valley
Wildlife conservation measures
Publicity for walking routes
Publicity send to local tourism outlets – caravan sites etc
Environmental information – lake temperature
Wild camping events
Wildlife display board , wildlife display board
River re-naturalisation – Ben Ghyll
Broadleaf trees
Natural regeneration of woodland
Native woodland up ghylls
Cut out more conifers above the lake, let generate with hardwoods
Natural woodland and scrub communities
Bog bean
Broadleaf trees
More farmers involved
Signs, information
Sea eagles
Wild horses
Owls
Eagles
Wolves
Bears
Beavers
Salmon and trout spawning upper catchment
Juvenile pearl mussel survival
Areas of low input – low grazing especially on skiddaw slate
Galloway cattle
Ponds
Information on what is being done to save red squirrels – how can public help
Char in the lake – liza spawning
Pine martens
Red grouse

Question - What would you like us to deliver in the future?

Shuttle bus, horses and cart to valley head for walkers.
Pony and trap access. Pony grazing support native fell pony.
Removal of forest roads, no vehicles up valley, car free.
Footpaths from village to valley.
Evidence of how wildness benefits the sustainable management of a large areas.
Natural river course benefits to reduce peak food events.
Stiles with proper dog access. Investigate upper catchment flood risk benefits.
More evidence based information.

Monitoring.

Dipper scarce possibly due to lack of good nesting opportunities on Liza, provide artificial sites on bridges.

Red grouse targeting existing areas with red grouse in hope they will re-colonise Ennerdale.

More Woodland Cover.

Remove remainder of spruce from middle bridge to top valley.

Repaired road to Bleach Green car park. More signage in car parks

Toilets at Bowness Knott. More facilities

Guided tours up valley

Accessible walks, paths with notification of distance, smoother tracks. Better routes to points of interest

A presence, camping at Anglers Car park, no authority on ground. Wild Camping events. Camping bothy.

Business opportunities for farmers

Internet, social networks, webcams, stories, films,

Display boards in the village.

Include River Ehen in management plan

Wildlife hides, tree house visitor centre, cabins in the wood, walk in. Use windblown trees to make log cabin style shelters.

Use of timber for woodfuel for local people

Continued emphasis on Natural processes. Lakeshore improvement – re-wilding.

More wildness, less evidence of human activity.

Illustrate wild – river, floodplains, valley side, fell, habitat transitions. Connectivity.

Monitoring vole numbers. Heckbarley, other areas.

Something for young people in the catchment

Challenge people with re-introduction of species that are extinct, fell ponies, beavers.

Be cautious about species re-introduction, no unsustainable populations.

Working holidays, study breaks.

Proper boundary fencing. Better consultation with neighbouring landowners prior to changes i.e. boundary fences. Expand boundary to include more farmers

Community tree planting with local schools, interest groups

World Class example of partnership, community project benefits landscape, wildlife, vibrant continuity visitor experiences.

Foothpaths from Heckbarley to footpath at bottom of crag.

Talk to more local groups, schools. Wild Ennerdale Forest School.

Historical low altitude sea plantain crowded out by gorse, needs monitoring and help.

Question - How can we share more widely what is happening in Ennerdale?

European links to other wilding projects

Work with Regen NE Copeland – see proposed extreme sports facility

Engagement of other valleys, national parks
Specific on subject, newsletters to all parties.
Information points at Bowness Knott and Bleach Green.
Large display boards in village
Information boards in village and car parks
Links to communities and schools in local towns
Advertise the knowledge to schools, universities as a case study.
Invite school groups from further afield
Is Wild Ennerdale branding being considered, provide beef, lamb, pork, crafts etc
Set up a company to market and sell Wild Ennerdale brand to fund the future when money runs out.
Overexposure – be careful – too many visitors
Will greater access reduce the wildness
Continue the concept of Ennerdale, gather to celebrate achievement
Talk to LDNP volunteers
LDNP to make more of Ennerdale, promote concept to other valleys
Promote Ennerdale as good example of valley planning with LDNP partnership plan and sub group.
LDNP members executive board, colleagues and volunteers, communities and other valleys in West Cumbria.
Give talks or invite people from other communities in Cumbria to see what you have achieved (transition town groups, what is the benefit of the village)
Take Wild Ennerdale into wider urban areas, slides, videos, talks
Talk to people outside Ennerdale who are not directly involved.
Keep developing excellent website. Continue with website. Have links to other websites. Use, publicise website more.
You tube films on different aspects.
Weekly TV Show or feature on a series.
Share practical lessons learnt – video clips, fact sheets
Promotional videos to cruise ships, rail operators.

Question -Who will you share your experiences from today with?

LDNP land management sub group, partnership plan
Pub
Friends, friends, friends, friends, neighbours, colleagues, family, family, family
Family and friends, family and friends in adjacent villages
Farmers in Derwent valley and Bassenthwaite catchment
Public on coast and in valley
Volunteers
School
Colleagues at university
Board members of local community hub
Cumbria County Scout council executive and facilities sub committee

Group members through newsletter
National Trust community team, regional and head office
Coast to coast walkers
British Horse Society Cumbria access group
Cumbria Bridleways society
Fell Pony society
Environment Agency press contacts and area manager
Anyone who is interested
On website through links
Regular feature in Whitehaven news (could link with coast in nature conservation section)
Clients of our outdoor adventure business
BNFL
LDNP to bring more involvement from authority
Everyone I meet and work with in West Cumbria and the wider area – I will be an enthusiastic and positive advocate of what is happening in Ennerdale.
Cumbria Wildlife Trust, membership, magazine article.
Mountain Rescue Team
Chief Executive of Forestry Commission
Report to Parish Council, Regen NE Copeland, friends and neighbours. Article in Parish Newsletter.
Farming and Forestry Group – National Park led group
Forest Foods group – Rick Cross
Visitors to Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre
Committee and members of Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre.
TACT – Windermere Transition Group
SLACC – South Lakeland Transition Group

Appendix 2 – Wordle Pictures

All Feedback



Question - What do you think we have achieved?



Appendix 3