



Revised 2011-2013 Action Plan

Introduction

This document sets out the revised actions for the Biosphere Reserve partnership from 2011 to 2013 inclusive. The time period has been extended to 2013 to coincide with the end of many funding programmes such as LEADER, FLAG and other EU funding streams.

The actions align with the Biosphere Reserve longer term strategy, which is still extant and can be found on the Biosphere Reserve website

www.northdevonbiosphere.org.uk

1. To enhance the biodiversity of the area:

Action Plan 2011-2013

Project Title	Actions Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
1.1 Biosphere Reserve Biodiversity Action Plan and Work Programme	Ensure the implementation of the Biosphere BAP with champions adopted from a variety of bodies and sectors (including private sector)	BAP actions and progress is monitored.	June 2012	Biosphere Reserve Team	DWT, Natural England, Environment Agency, Devon Biodiversity Partnership	Local Area Agreement, charitable funds
1.2 Improve baseline data about marine species and habitats	Carry out Marine Biotope survey and feed into the Marine Spatial Strategy and MCZ baseline data Work with Sea-search to carry out surveys and work with sea users to augment data	Database established and quality checked. Baseline report published MCZ data made more visible and accessible	December 2011	Natural England,	Coastwise, Biosphere Reserve Team IFCA	FLAG
1.4 Freshwater Pearl Mussel conservation as an iconic species	Deliver a programme of conservation for the freshwater pearl mussel through a landscape scale biodiversity programme	Community of FPM is conserved. Factors impacting recruitment and longevity are minimised.	Application Oct 2011	Biosphere Reserve team	Natural England, Environment Agency, FWAG	HLF, Charity, private.

2. To conserve and celebrate our heritage and culture and best landscapes.

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Project Title	Action Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
2.1 Valuing the landscape and its importance to the economy	Recording the landscape as it is today through professional and community approaches including popular survey of peoples emotions and economic links to the landscape	Landscape character assessment published	April 2011	LAs Universities	Devon County Council, Natural England	
2.2 Celebrate our cultural and landscape richness	Work with ND festival to capture and sustain the culture of North Devon	Biosphere and Festival events are co-marketed and enhanced	July 2012	North Devon Festival	Biosphere Reserve Team	
2.3 Celebrate our heritage through artistic media	Develop and implement an Arts/media project for the Biosphere Reserve. A document that shows how we will use performing and visual arts in the Biosphere Reserve to bring together culture science and sustainability	Confluence project delivered	December 2012	Beaford Arts, Institute of Digital Art and Technology	NDBRF, Biosphere Reserve team	
2.4 Implement the North Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Plan	Continued support for the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty team to oversee and implement the plan	Conserve nationally designated landscapes	April 2013	Biosphere Reserve Team	Natural England, LAs	

3. To use our resources wisely

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Project Title	Action Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
3.1 Support Local Development Framework	Provide support group to assist LDF teams to produce and deliver sustainable strategies with latitude from central government to “push the envelope” and test sustainability policies.	LDF core strategies and policies that embrace the Biosphere Reserve philosophy. Green infrastructure policy using ecosystem services	Dec 2012	LAs	Biosphere Reserve Team	
3.2 Resource mapping and State of Environment Monitoring	Establish a baseline assessment of the Biosphere Reserve for all of its functions and agree a set of easily monitored indicators	State of Biosphere Report established	Jan 2012	Biosphere Reserve Team	LA's, SWENVO	
3.3 Catchment wide resource management project	Reduce the loss of soil, nutrients and bacteriological loading into the rivers and seas through catchment sensitive farming advice	35 farms per year engaged.	Ongoing	Biosphere Reserve Team	Environment Agency, Natural England,	
3.6 Develop a Biodiversity Credit Scheme	Work with DEFRA, developers and planning team to establish a biodiversity credit scheme associated with Section 106 or Community infrastructure Levy Scheme	Pilot project established	Dec 2011	Biosphere Reserve Team	SW Fishing and Conservation Authority	

4. To tackle on a local, national and international basis the issues relating to climate change:

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Project Title	Action Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
4.3 Catchment Adaptation and mitigation programme	Reduce the emissions arising from land-use in the catchment and address run-off rates in the catchment to reduce flooding risk in key areas.	Model approach developed. GHG savings identified from nitrous oxide and methane	September 2013	BR team	Farming sector, Devon County Council, Environment Agency,	Life+
4.5 Enabling appropriate renewable and sustainable energy programmes	Develop energy efficiency and community-scale renewable energy projects particularly that have a pay back for the local community.	10% of Carbon Dioxide emissions reduced. Project endorsement Projects support and advice	September 2012	Local Authorities	Biosphere Reserve team	
4.6 Supporting Businesses to reduce emissions	Programme of technical seminars to schools, authorities, Climate audit businesses and public bodies and develop an accreditation system tied with the Biosphere Reserve brand	>50 organisations benefiting from the interaction Community based carbon footprinting is known for the whole reserve and used as a bench mark	September 2010	ND+ Biosphere Reserve team	Carbon Trust	To be identified

5. To develop and strengthen a robust economy that enhances the environment

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Project Title	Action Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
5.1 Support a low carbon economy through ensuring universal access to broadband	Promote bandwidth expansion, IT skills uptake and champion and lobby for high tech sustainable office space,	Universal access to broadband	2012	ND+		
5.5 Local procurement labelling scheme	Develop a programme centred on New economics Foundation “Plugging the leaks”. Pushing the networking benefits within the Biosphere Reserve	Extended demonstration programme of “plugging the leaks” and transition economy in the Biosphere Reserve. Evidence base for local procurement being economically more effective	December 2011	ND+	Biosphere Reserve Team, NEF	LEADER
5.6 Promote and develop a sustainable tourism infrastructure	Develop further the Visitor Investment Scheme for the Biosphere Reserve Train businesses engaging with clients to raise awareness and demand for sustainable products and services using the Biosphere Reserve special qualities and USP.	20 Businesses channelling funds to Biosphere Reserve projects. Increase or enhance 3 facilities for sustainable tourism	Sept 2012	Biosphere Reserve team NDBRF	SWCP ND+	
5.7 Develop the value-added aspect of the fishing economy to enhance its sustainability	Improve the after catch value of the fish landed and improve the diversity fo the market to ensure that fishing stays within sustainable limits and the value to the area is maximised	Projects delivered under the Fisheries Local Action Group to support value added, and monitoring for sustainability	April 2013	ND+	NDAF, Biosphere Reserve team	

6. To have a safe strong and healthy community in North Devon

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Project Title	Action Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
6.1 Increase awareness of the Biosphere Reserve and its meaning to the community at all levels	Establish a Biosphere Reserve Community Champions Scheme with trained champions and clearly identified roles and a Biosphere Reserve code to promote	20 local champions appointed Code developed and proof of adoption	December 2011	Biosphere Reserve Team	LA Communications teams	
6.2 Health Improvement	Develop a Biosphere-based health improvement programme, including working with practice nurses to access the "hard to reach" people with chronic mental or obesity problems	Programme established with agreed target groups. >20 clients benefiting from programme over 2 year period.	December 2011	Biosphere Reserve Team	Health Authority Natural England	
6.5 Strengthen the engagement of communities throughout the Biosphere Reserve	Develop further the Biosphere Action Week to include inland communities for a range of project types.	Biosphere Reserve ethos is embedded in LSP strategies.	ongoing	Biosphere Reserve Team	LAs, Natural England	
6.6 Use the Tarka Trail as a gateway to the Biosphere Reserve and for engaging communities	Redressing the interpretation and messages in the TT interpretation.	50 Communities/parishes involved via the Tarka Trail	May 2012	Biosphere Reserve Team	Devon County Council Highways	

7. To be a community of learning for the wider world

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Project Title	Action Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
7.1 Interpretation Strategy	Implement the Interpretation strategy that will guide the provision of informal learning material through a range of media for all partners working in the Northern Devon area.	Interpretation strategy implemented	Ongoing	Biosphere Reserve team and Communication group	ND Museums, Devon County Council	
7.2 Develop Resources for Education for Sustainable Development	Develop partnership with primary and secondary schools.	Ensure education pack remains relevant and can be delivered by a range of people (Teachers, freelance specialists)	March 2012	Biosphere Reserve team	Local Academic Council, Devon Education Services	
7.4 International Dimensions	Promote the area throughout the world network of Biosphere Reserves as place of learning. Develop our skills to be used in developing country Biosphere Reserves	The area is highlighted in international documents as an example of good practice. Self funded partnership programmes with other reserves. Links with Kenya maintained	December 2013	Biosphere Reserve team	DfID, UNESCO, Kenya MAB	
7.6 Future North Devon	Develop a research programme including, economy, sociology and behaviour change, ecosystem connections, system resilience	Programme developed Research establishments identified	December 2011	Evidence and assessment group	Universities, UNESCO, Stockholm University	FP7, DEFRA,

8. To develop the organisational arrangements for the Biosphere Reserve to ensure it remains fit-for-purpose and integrates fully with the MAB Programme;

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8.1 Biosphere Reserve Partnership	Maintain legal status, membership, TOR under regular scrutiny to ensure the Partnership remains fit for purpose	Exemplar of good Biosphere Reserve Governance with strong participation but remaining responsive to change	Ongoing	Partnership		
8.3 Working Groups	The Partnership will develop its programme with the support of permanent Working Groups and time-limited task-forces.	Working Groups and task forces established and functional	Ongoing	Partnership		
8.4 Funding	Seek a 3 year commitment to funding where possible Fundraising strategy established for external resources Funding sources to be diversified	Core Biosphere Reserve Team maintained Action Plan implemented	2011	Partnership		
8.5 Linkage with the MAB programme	Maintain linkages with UKMAB, Biosphere Reserves in UK, EUROMAB and international MA and our twinned reserve in Kenya, as well as other relevant UNESCO Programmes	Active partnerships	ongoing	Partnership		