

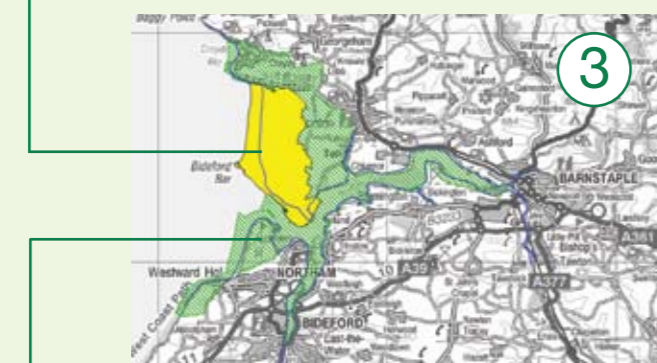
This action plan accompanies North Devon's Biosphere Reserve Strategy, and is the implementation plan for 2008-2012. It sets out a portfolio of projects that have been identified by members of the Partnership and others to address each of the 8 strategic aims, which will progress us towards our 25 year Vision.

For each project, a lead partner is identified. This partner will be responsible, with the support of the Biosphere Reserve Team, for developing a full project document, securing funding, coordinating implementation, and monitoring and reporting the outputs. A very large number of partners will participate in these projects.

The Biosphere Reserve team will prepare regular progress reports for the Biosphere Reserve Partnership on the implementation of the Action Plan, and will publish a full annual report at the end of each calendar year. An internal mid-term review of achievements against the plan will be undertaken at the end of year 3, and an external evaluation of the Biosphere Reserve at the end of year 5.



The Core



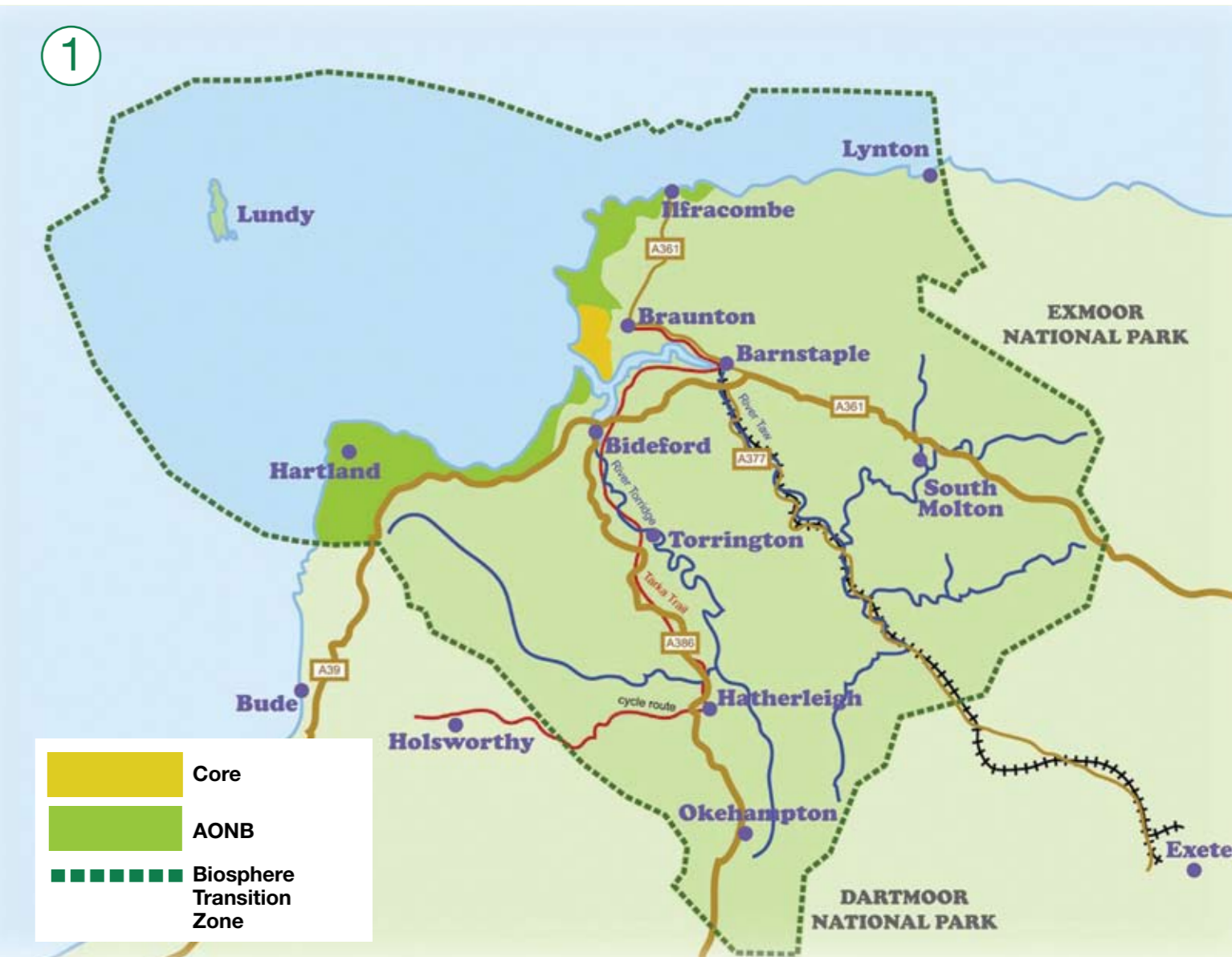
The Buffer Zone



Our Action Plan for Sustainable Development

2008 - 2012

“ North Devon will be a superb place in which to live and work, and to visit, where an excellent quality environment underpins jobs, recreation and healthy living. The area will be a world class exemplar for sustainable development ”



1. To reverse the decline in biodiversity

Project Title	Actions Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
1.1 Biosphere Reserve Biodiversity Action Plan and Work Programme	Establish working group, develop a Biosphere Reserve specific plan. Co-ordinate the delivery through champions and fundraising for projects. Plan to reduce fragmentation and increase system resilience	BR specific BAP and Work Programme published and implementation commenced	June 2009	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. Work with Sea-search to carry out surveys and work with sea users to augment datam resilience	Database established and quality checked. Baseline report published	December 2011	MBA	DWT, Biosphere Reserve Team	
1.3 Burrows conservation strategy	Produce and implement a management plan specifically for the core area to restore the system to favourable condition	Plan produced with measures for the enhancement of key dune species and habitats and incorporating legitimate uses of the site. Management agreement in place and funded	September 2009	CDET	Natural England, Devon County Council	
1.4 Promote Rural Skills for Biodiversity Management	Develop a skills enhancement programme and provide training for land managers and community.	Programme designed. Funding sources identified and applied. Aim for >50 participants	April 2009	Biosphere Reserve Team	FWAG	Access to Nature
1.5 Survey, make recommendations for management and follow up on County Wildlife sites	Complete CWS survey outside of Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, record condition and make recommendations to owners. Follow up with support from community or grant aid.	Updated survey of all CWS in Biosphere Reserve	April 2009	District Councils	DBRC Biosphere Reserve Team FWAG, Devon County Council	LAA
1.6 Conserve and enhance urban biodiversity	Develop LNRs, Wild Gardening, Local Urban BAP with community involvement	Establish 2 new LNRs Publish and implement local urban BAP 2 BAP garden initiatives	April 2010	Biosphere Reserve Team	LAs, Village and Town In Bloom groups, RHS.	Access to Nature

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

Project Title	Actions 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 2009	Las Universities	Devon County Council, Natural England	
2.2 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	
2.3 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 2008	North Devon Festival	Biosphere Reserve Team	
2.4 Conserve the WWII features found on the core and buffer zones	Record and establish programme of conservation and remove any damaging activity	Feature database and condition survey available Awareness materials produced	June 2009	Devon County Council	Natural England, English Heritage, CDET	
2.5 Celebrate our heritage through artistic media	Develop and implement an Arts/media strategy 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	Arts/media strategy published and being implemented drawing where possible on the Cultural Olympiad	December 2008	North Devon Theatres	NDJ WMN	

3. To use our resources wisely

Project Title	Actions 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	June 2009	LA	Biosphere Reserve Team	
3.2 Resource Mapping	Develop an audit and map of the natural resources of the Biosphere Reserve and disseminate this to the public	Baseline audit of key natural resources created and available for interrogation by public	March 2009	Biosphere Reserve Team	Ruby, DWT EA	
3.3 Catchment wide resource management project	Catchment wide sensitive land-use project to bring together people, science and landscape scale approaches to ecosystems and the services they provide. Task force established for soil conservation through targeted advice	Project established for at least two pilot catchments Improved downstream water quality	2011	Biosphere Reserve Team	Environment Agency, DWT, Natural England, Westcountry Rivers Trust	Interreg, Local Area Agreement,
3.4 MSC approved fishery for North Devon	Work with commercial and recreation sector to develop a sustainable fishery, including research, monitoring, training and awareness programmes, branding and local marketing	MSC certification	2011	N DFA	SW Fishing and Conservation Authority	
3.4 MSC approved fishery for North Devon	Work with local people, landowners and businesses to ensure key coastal management issues form part of the Shoreline Management Plan development.	Sustainable defence solutions in the North Devon and Somerset SMP	December 2009	NDASCAG	Biosphere Reserve Team, North Devon Council, Torridge District Council, Devon County Council	DEFRA

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

Project Title	Actions Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
4.1 Climate-change proofing scheme for new developments	Develop criteria and assessment framework for accreditation of new developments	Criteria established and approved for use by Local Planning authorities. >10% of applicants using the criteria on new developments and significant re-developments	September 2008	Local Authorities	Commercial Sector architects CABE	None needed
4.2 Provide evidence of climate change	Gather evidence of change of the climate from the local and scientific community	Quantitative and qualitative data gathered and made available in publications and the web	September 2009	Biosphere Reserve Team, Universities	Biosphere Reserve Partnership	In kind and research funds to be applied for
4.3 Climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies for Water, Land and Sea	Develop a Biosphere Reserve wide strategy for climate change adaptation and mitigation through scenario planning and stakeholder engagement. This will emphasise the importance of developing a low carbon economy.	Mitigation and adaptation strategy completed and acknowledged as a Supplementary Planning Document	September 2010	Biosphere Reserve Team	Local Authorities, Environment Agency	Interreg
4.4 Communication and education regarding climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation	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 Devon Renewable energy forum		To be identified
4.5 Develop local mitigation projects	Develop energy efficiency and community-scale renewable energy projects particularly that have a pay back for the local community	XX tonnes of Carbon Dioxide emissions reduced	September 2012	ND+		LEADER, Interreg, Env Transformation Fund

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

Project Title	Actions Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
5.1 Support and develop a low carbon economy for local offices	Promote bandwidth expansion, IT skills uptake and champion for high tech sustainable office space, through supporting the delivery of the 2020 Action plan	Economy of ND has 20% reduced footprint. NNN new businesses based on low carbon operation	2012	Devon County Council	SWRDA, ND+	
5.2 Special Biosphere Reserve product and service development	Work with sectors to develop special services and produce linked to sympathetic management of resources	A range of produce developed to benefit community. 5 products and services	September 2009	Biosphere Reserve Team	ND+	LEADER
5.3 Exploit the opportunities for local community, economy and investment	Develop social-environmental entrepreneurship.	20 environmental entrepreneurs developed.	December 2010	ND+	UnLtd, Devon Youth Service, Biosphere Reserve Team	Local Action for Rural Communities
5.4 Develop Brand accreditation for the Biosphere Reserve linked to Promoting North Devon	3 tier accreditation scheme developed with strong criteria.g	200 businesses supported	June 2009	Biosphere Reserve Team	ND+, NDEA, Devon County Council	Devon Renaissance
5.5 Local procurement labelling scheme	Develop a programme centred on New economics Foundation "Plugging the leaks".	Extended demonstration programme of plugging the leaks in the Biosphere Reserve.	December 2010	ND+	Biosphere Reserve Team	LEADER
5.6 Promote and develop a sustainable tourism infrastructure	Train businesses engaging with clients to raise awareness and demand for sustainable products and services using the Biosphere Reserve special qualities and USP.	Increase or enhance 3 facilities for sustainable tourism	June 2009	Devon County Council	Biosphere Reserve Team, Las ND+ NDMB	LEADER, Interreg

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

Project Title	Actions 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	5 national champions appointed, 5 local champions appointe	April 2009	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 physical problems	Programme established with agreed target groups. >20 clients benefiting from programme over 2 year period.	December 2008	Biosphere Reserve Team	Devon PCT, Natural England	A2N fund, Natural England
6.3 Improving governance and awareness	Maintain close alliance with the Local Strategic Partnerships	Biosphere Reserve ethos is embedded in LSP strategies.	ongoing	Biosphere Reserve Team	LAs, Natural England	A2N fund, Natural England
6.4 Linking communities through "Going Wild in the Garden"	Biosphere Reserve action picnics, working with groups such as sure start have beach or countryside picnics to raise awareness and action Engage the community with Wild gardening and World Class Horticulture initiative	Work with Sure start to have Beach and Forest Picnics to explain the Biosphere Reserve in an interactive way and develop the youth inclusion. Use the new in bloom to link communities for around the Biosphere Reserve	September 2008	Biosphere Reserve Team	In-bloom Groups, RHS, Parks Departments	
6.5 Self-Esteem North Devon (SEND)	Celebration of the community's role in being an internationally recognised site	Community picnics Film or documentary commissioned	June 2009	Devon Association of Parish Councils, Community Council of Devon	Biosphere Reserve Team, Natural England	A2N fund, Natural England

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

Project Title	Actions 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 Educational Resources on SD	Prepare a funding package for a (1 year) full time Biosphere Reserve Education coordinator to develop resource pack for schools, support staff development through training and offer in-school support	Education Coordinator	March 2009	Biosphere Reserve Team	Bideford College, N. Devon College, W Buckland School Local Academic Council, Devon Education Services	
7.3 Vocational Training for an Environmental economy	To provide a framework for students of differing abilities to learn skills in caring for the environment. These should be linked to local farms that can be used as demonstration and training sites. Vocational training can include the development of Sustainable Development modules for any discipline.	Scheme for training unemployed and volunteers for heritage and rural skills. 100 trainees to NVQ standard	December 2009	North Devon College	Biosphere Reserve Team	
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. Finalise the twinning with Kenya implement 1 joint project to benefit both areas	December 2008	Biosphere Reserve Team	DFID, UNESCO, Kenya MAB	
7.5 Promoting Universities/ Foundation Degrees through North Devon University College of North Devon	Establish foundation degrees related to land management Biosphere Reserve management extending on from those developed in Human Biosciences and Sustainable Design and Construction and ultimately a full degree in Sustainable Development related to Biosphere Reserves	2 new foundation degree established	September 2010	ND College	Biosphere Reserve Team	
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 2008	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 by

Project Title	Actions Required	Target and Indicator	Deadline	Lead	Support	Funding
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	2009	Partnership		
8.2 Maintain charitable status	Establish a charitable status for the Biosphere Reserve so that it is able to receive donations and grants	Charity established	2010	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	2008	Partnership		
8.4 Funding	Core funders agree 3 year rolling budget strategy. Fundraising strategy established for external resources	Core Biosphere Reserve Team maintained. Action Plan implemented	2008	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		