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# A vision for A Living Landscape

### The beginnings of nature conservation









### The establishment of individual Trusts



"...independent organisation devoted primarily to conservation, incorporated to hold property, with some financial resources and, most importantly perhaps, deriving its support from a much wider section of the community than the average natural history society"



# **Vital Statistics**

Land and sea

- 2,300 nature reserves managed
- 150 coastal and marine reserves

#### People power

- More than 800,000 members, including 150,000 junior members
- More than 35,000 volunteers
- 17,000 events held last year
- 400,000 people directly engaged
- 6,500,000 visits to Trust reserves

#### Influence

- 5,300 landowners advised
- Over 600 Members of Parliament and Assemblies engaged

### Nature can't exist in a box...

### A recovery plan for nature championed by The Wildlife Trusts since 2006



A living landscape

Healthy cities and green space for all

Adaptation to climate change Sustainable local economies

Abundant wildlife

Wildlife Trusts

### Great Fen¥

2006

#### From this...

East Coast mainline railway

#### LOST LAKE

This was the site of Whittlesey Mere - the largest lake in lowland England. It was drained for agriculture in 1850

#### WILDLIFE

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Invasive species, water pollution and the effects of intensive farming have steadily eroded the species diversity of the two reserves over many decades

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HOLME FEN Holme Fen National Nature Reserve is the largest birch woodland in lowland

Britain

#### WIND EROSION Intensive farming has seen

the loss of 14 feet of peat soil in just 150 years. In places there is barely 18 inches left before the underlying clay is exposed

#### WOODWALTON

This National Nature Reserve was the first reserve owned by the SPNR (now The Wildlife Trusts), Today it's managed by Natural England

#### CONSTANT

Peat shrinkage means much of the area is below sea level, under constant threat of flood. The drain pumps must work continually

# Great Fen¥

2056

### ...to this!

REEDBED OPEN WATER

WHITTLESEY MERE

Although not on the original site, the lake will be named after the original. Visitors will explore the project's waterways in electric boats

WET MEADOW

SEASONAL FLOODING

GRAZERS Areas of scrub, grassland and woodland will be grazed by freeroaming cattle and horses,

to create a shifting, semi-wild landscape

ROAMING

DRY GRASSLAND

BROADLEAF WOODLAND

NEW SPECIES

Threatened species not usually seen in this area will return and thrive: fen violets, nightingales, cranes and spoonbills – perhaps even great bustard

#### RENEWABLE

Management of wildlife areas could allow commercial cropping of reed for local thatch, organic dairy and meat production

#### 100,000 VISITORS

Tourism from the UK and abroad will create more opportunities for local people than the farmland that used to be here

Within a few decades the same area will be transformed, thanks to he leadership of the Wildlife Trust or Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire,

### **Urban Living Landscapes**

#### Culm divided, Stephen William Powles

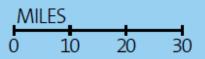


## Pumlumon

### **IT'S BIG!**

In his book *Rivers* Griff Rhys Jones calls Pumlumon, "the water tank in Britain's attic" -a fair description. The area (in red) is as big as Birmingham, and spans five river catchments including the Usk, Severn and Wye. It's one of the UK's largest, most diverse habitat restoration projects.





### **Ecosystem services**

Livestock - £19,000 Change in Carbon balance - £33,500 Additional water storage - £7,735 Leisure and tourism - £218,750 2012

2032

Livestock - £102,000 Change in Carbon balance - £1,131,692 Additional water storage - £279,900 Leisure and tourism - £612,500

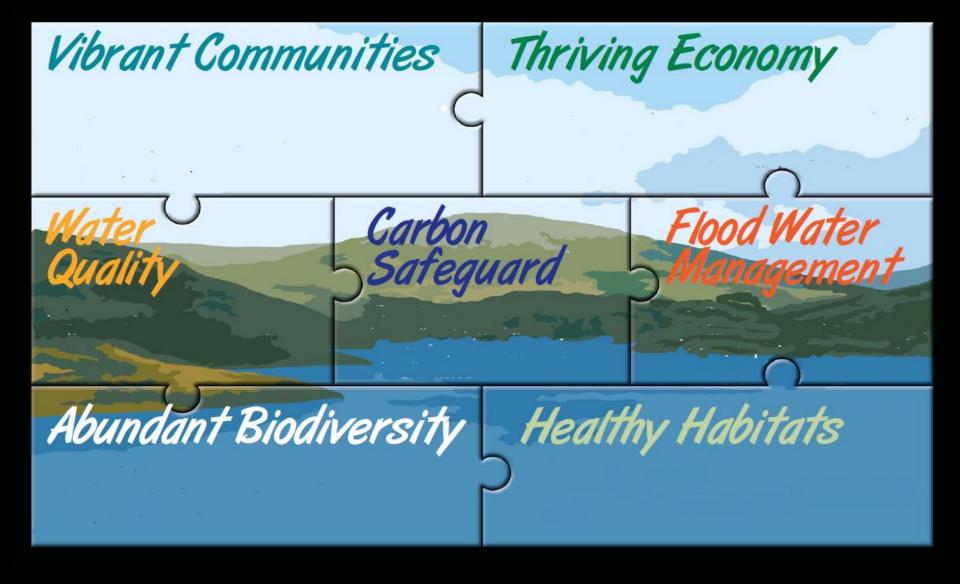
### £2,126,092

£278,933

### **Pumlumon project**

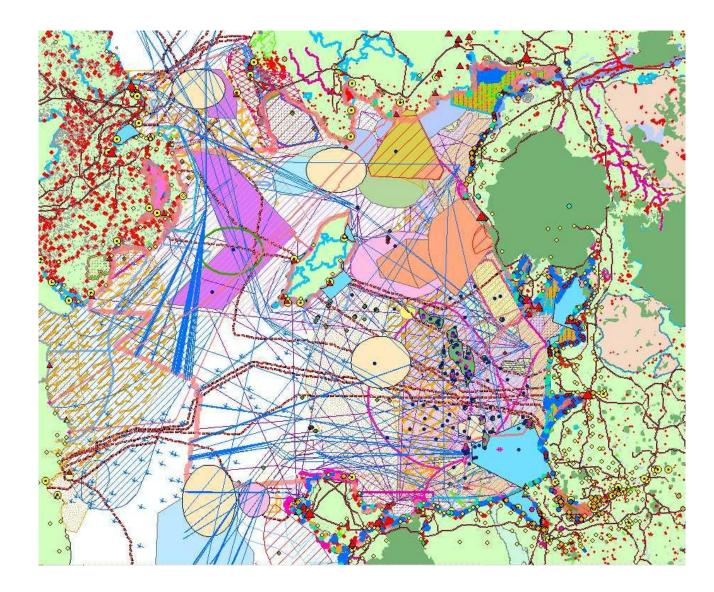


Protecting Wildlife for the Future



### and at sea....

- Landuse
- Tourism
- Oil &Gas
- Mariculture
- Coastal
  Defence
- Ports &
  Navigation
- Military
  Activities
- Culture
- Conservation
- Dredging & Disposal
- Submarine
  Cables



Renewable
 Energy

Fishing

Marine
 Recreation

Mineral
 Extraction



### Living Seas The Wildlife Trusts' vision

Protecting Wildlife for the Future



