

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy – Appendix 8

Contents

| | |
|--|-----|
| 1.0 Natural Capital Baseline Assessment..... | 1 |
| 1.1 Introduction..... | 1 |
| 2.0 NCA 30: Southern Magnesian Limestone..... | 3 |
| 2.1 Key Characteristics..... | 3 |
| 2.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 30: Southern Magnesian Limestone within DCC | 3 |
| 3.0 NCA38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield | 11 |
| 3.1 Key Characteristics..... | 11 |
| 3.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield within DCC..... | 11 |
| 4.0 NCA 50: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent | 38 |
| 4.1 Key Characteristics..... | 38 |
| 4.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 50: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent within DCC | 39 |
| 5.0 NCA 51: Dark Peak..... | 59 |
| 5.1 Key Characteristics..... | 59 |
| 5.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 51: Dark Peak within DCC..... | 59 |
| 5.3 Landscape Character Types within NCA 51: Dark Peak within Peak District National Park | 76 |
| 6.0 NCA 52: White Peak..... | 96 |
| 6.1 Key Characteristics..... | 96 |
| 6.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 52: White Peak within DCC..... | 96 |
| 6.3 Landscape Character Types within NCA 52: White Peak within Peak District National Park | 112 |
| 7.0 NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands..... | 131 |
| 7.1 Key Characteristics..... | 131 |
| 7.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands within DCC | 132 |
| 8.0 NCA 69: Trent Valley Washlands | 154 |
| 8.1 Key Characteristics..... | 154 |
| 8.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 69: Trent Valley Washlands within DCC..... | 154 |
| 9.0 NCA 70: Melbourne Parklands | 166 |
| 9.1 Key Characteristics..... | 166 |
| 9.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 70: Melbourne Parklands within DCC..... | 166 |
| 10.0 NCA 71: Leicestershire & South Derbyshire Coalfield | 181 |
| 10.1 Key Characteristics | 181 |
| 10.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 71: Leicestershire & South Derbyshire Coalfield within DCC | 182 |
| 11.0 NCA 72: Mease/Sence Lowlands..... | 186 |
| 11.1 Key Characteristics | 186 |
| 11.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 72: Mease/ Sence Lowlands within DCC..... | 186 |
| 12.0 Geospatial Data and other published written assessment used | 195 |
| Geospatial Data and other published written assessment | 195 |
| 12.1 Key Characteristics | 195 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| 12.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 51: Dark Peak within Peak District National Park | 196 |
| 13.0 NCA 52: White Peak | 245 |
| 13.1 Key Characteristics | 245 |
| 13.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 52: White Peak within DCC | 246 |
| 14.0 NCA 53: South West Peak | 249 |
| 14.1 Key Characteristics | 249 |
| 14.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 53: South West Peak within Peak District National Park..... | 249 |
| 15.0 Geospatial Data and other published written assessment used | 280 |
| 15.1 Geospatial Data and other published written assessment | 280 |

Appendix 8 - Baseline landscape character

1.0 Natural Capital Baseline Assessment

1.1 Introduction

This appendix comprises the full Natural Capital Baseline Assessment (of which an extract is included in the main report), which includes comment on baseline landscape character and has been prepared by SLR Consulting Limited ('SLR') in collaboration with Environment Systems Limited and eftec Limited on behalf of Derbyshire County Council (DCC), the client. The baseline provides crucial evidence to inform part the Natural Capital Strategy.

This document provides an objective account and high-level review of possible management actions from a landscape and heritage perspective with all information contained within this document extracted from existing written published data and publicly available spatial datasets.

1.1.1 Baseline Landscape Character

The baseline landscape character starts at the National level and includes consideration of existing published assessments such as the National Character Area (NCA) profiles prepared by Natural England. The NCA's identify Ecosystem Services within each broad character area; this information is summarised within this appendix. The National Character Areas (NCA's) included within the scope of this document are:

- NCA 30: Southern Magnesian Limestone;
- NCA 38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield;
- NCA 50: Derbyshire Peak Fringe & Lower Derwent;
- NCA 51: Dark Peak;
- NCA 52: White Peak;
- NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands;
- NCA 69: Trent Valley Washlands;
- NCA 70: Melbourne Parklands;
- NCA 71: Leicestershire & South Derbyshire Coalfield; and
- NCA 72: Mease/ Sence Lowlands.

The findings of the NCA mapping have been compared with existing local character assessments prepared by both DCC (The Landscape Character of Derbyshire, 2014) and the Peak District National Park (PDNP) (The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan for the Peak District National Park, 2009). Each LCT within the 10 NCA's has also been reviewed to give a finer grain of detail to this document.

The purpose of this document is to identify distinctive elements and features and set out appropriate management actions for future habitat conservation, enhancement, or creation within each LCT.

The proposed management actions have been reviewed by an expert panel with local knowledge to provide additional input on appropriate land use actions for each LCT which forms the baseline of the landscape character risks and opportunities. Identified landscape elements and features have

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

been mapped to create a spatial database incorporating the content produced within the main body of this report.

2.0 NCA 30: Southern Magnesian Limestone

2.1 Key Characteristics

- Underlying limestone creates an elevated ridge with smoothly rolling landform; river valleys cut through the ridge, in places following dramatic gorges. There are also some dry valleys;
- Fertile, intensively farmed arable land, with large fields bounded by clipped hawthorn hedges, creating a generally large-scale, open landscape;
- Semi-natural habitats, strongly associated with underlying limestone geology, include lowland calcareous grassland and limestone scrub on the free draining upland and gorges with wetland habitats associated with localised springs and watercourses, but all tend to be small and fragmented;
- Large number of abbeys, country houses and estates with designed gardens and parklands, woodlands, plantations and game coverts;
- Long views over lowlands to the east and west, and most prominent in the south;
- Woodlands combining with open arable land to create a wooded farmland landscape in places, where traditionally coppiced woodlands support dormouse populations;
- Unifying influence of creamy white Magnesian Limestone used as a building material and often combined with red pantile roofing;
- Localised industrial influences, especially in the Aire and Don valleys, and in the south and along the fringe of the Coal Measures to the west, with former mines and spoil heaps (many now restored), power lines, settlements, industry and transport routes. Bramham Park is one of a number of large country houses that have designed gardens and parklands;
- Influenced by the transport corridor of the A1 which is apparent in an otherwise undisturbed rural countryside; and
- Archaeological evidence, with some notable prehistoric sites, reflects the longstanding importance of the area for occupation and transport.

2.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 30: Southern Magnesian Limestone within DCC

2.2.1. Limestone Farmlands

A gently rolling, agricultural landscape, characterised by large scale open farmland, estate woodlands and limestone villages.

Key Characteristics:

- Gently rolling limestone plateau;
- Fertile soils supporting productive arable farmland;
- Large and medium estate woodlands;
- Amenity trees around small rural villages and isolated farmsteads;
- Large regular fields bounded by hedgerows;
- Straight roads with uniform width verges;

- Nucleated settlement pattern;
- Historic buildings constructed of limestone with red clay pantile roofs;
- Panoramic views across lowland to the west; and
- Long distance views over plateau often ending in a wooded skyline.

Table 1: Limestone Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Limestone Farmlands | Long distance views are characteristic, due to the gentle relief, lack of hedgerow trees and large arable fields; Large and medium estate woodlands including areas of ancient woodland; and Hardwick Hall and Bolsover Castle. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 2: Limestone Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Limestone Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Arable |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Woodland Character | Occasional large plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional large plantations |
| Woodland Type | Ash, oak, elm with hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Insignificant |
| Watercourse | None |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages and sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Limestone with red clay pantile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Hardwick Hall, Bolsover Castle, Green Lanes |

Table 3: Limestone Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect and manage existing semi-natural habitats, including grasslands, wetlands and woodlands; and increase the area of semi-natural habitats, restore and create new areas, and create networks and links between habitats, to make their ecology more resilient and to afford increased movement of species.</p> <p>Pockets of unimproved magnesian limestone grassland survive in this landscape character type.</p> <p>The rich grassland habitats of the magnesian limestone support many locally rare species. However, these sites occur only in isolated places, particularly on marginal land such as along road verges, on railway cuttings or in old quarries.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect and manage existing semi-natural habitats, including grasslands, wetlands and woodlands; and increase the area of semi-natural habitats, restore and create new areas, and create networks and links between habitats, to make their ecology more resilient and to afford increased movement of species.</p> <p>The major landscape features are the large woodlands, including Whitwell Wood, Scarcliffe Park and Pleasley Park.</p> <p>The woods of the gorges are remnants of ancient woodland and consist of a rich mixture of broadleaved trees, some of which are protected for their rarity.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Large scale woodland planting;</p> <p>Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites by natural regeneration or use of locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads; and</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Tree cover is a key characteristic of this LCT. Woodlands form small to medium plantation blocks, tree belts and small coverts.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create occasional large plantations. Woodland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect and manage existing semi-natural habitats, including grasslands, wetlands and woodlands; and increase the area of semi-natural habitats, restore and create new areas, and create networks and links between habitats, to make their ecology more resilient and to afford increased movement of species.</p> <p>Wetland habitats associated with localised springs and watercourses, but all tend to be small and fragmented.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect the overall rural landscape and maintain its highly tranquil quality, managing the arable landscape to ensure the continued production of quality crops while also enhancing landscape features such as field boundaries and improving biodiversity, soil quality, reduction of soil erosion, water quality and flood risk management.</p> <p>Limestone Farmlands are dominated by intensive cereal cropping.</p> <p>Arable farming has become the dominant land-use due to the fertile, free-draining qualities of the limestone soil allied with the gentle topography.</p> |
| Urban | u | Yes | <p>The traditional pattern of settlement is strongly nucleated and characterised by small villages such as Scarcliffe, Elmton and Whaley.</p> <p>Superimposed upon this rural landscape are the impacts of modern development, deep-coal mining and the urbanisation of many small villages.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Lands | | No | There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | The road verges are more irregular in width with occasional exposed rocky outcrops. |
| Rivers and Lakes | | No | Rivers and Lakes are present within this LCT, however are not specifically mentioned within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire Descriptions. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

2.2.2 Limestone Gorges

Incised river corridors, characterised by steep rocky cliffs, overhanging woodland and grazed meadows.

Key Characteristics:

- Narrow gorges with steep, rocky cliffs and flat bases;
- Wet meadows with permanent pasture;
- Thin belts of woodland along rock faces, with scattered trees associated with watercourses;
- Medium sized regular fields bounded by hedgerows and some dry-stone walls;
- Restricted transport routes due to inaccessibility;
- Settlement is absent or sparse;
- Textile mills and relict industrial buildings made from the local limestone; and
- Strong sense of visual containment.

Table 4: Limestone Gorges - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Limestone Gorges | Narrow gorges with steep, rocky cliffs and flat bases, The Landscape Character of Derbyshire states the major landscape features are the gorges themselves; and Linear remnants of broadleaved ancient woodland dominate the steep gorge sides. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 5: Limestone Gorges - Landscape character attributes

| Limestone Gorges | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Other Habitat Type | Wetland |
| Woodland Character | Widespread small woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Widespread small woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Ash, oak, elm with hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Occasional hedge or dry stone wall |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | Not applicable (Stone mills) |
| Cultural Interests | Prehistoric caves, historic mills |

Table 6: Limestone Gorges - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect and manage existing semi-natural habitats, including grasslands, wetlands and woodlands; and increase the area of semi-natural habitats, restore and create new areas, and create networks and links between habitats, to make their ecology more resilient and to afford increased movement of species.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is the dominant land-use in this landscape.</p> <p>Unimproved magnesian limestone grassland is nationally scarce. In the Limestone Gorges, this type of grassland occurs extensively on the steep slope.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>The waterlogged soils, play a key role in forming some important grassland habitats.</p> <p>Hollinhill, Markland Grips and Pleasley Vale have both been designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect and manage existing semi-natural habitats, including grasslands, wetlands and woodlands; and increase the area of semi- natural habitats, restore and create new areas, and create networks and links between habitats, to make their ecology more resilient and to afford increased movement of species.</p> <p>Linear remnants of broadleaved ancient woodland dominate the steep gorge sides.</p> <p>Scrub is apparent throughout the landscape, colonising poorly maintained fields and steeper slopes.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites by natural regeneration or use of locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long- lived species;</p> <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland creation and areas of nature conservation value;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> <p>Ensure new woodland does not conflict with features (e.g. ridge and furrow) that help to define landscape character.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create widespread small woodlands.</p> <p>Woodland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect and manage existing semi-natural habitats, including grasslands, |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | wetlands and woodlands; and increase the area of semi- natural habitats, restore and create new areas, and create networks and links between habitats, to make their ecology more resilient and to afford increased movement of species. Water, though present within the Limestone Gorges, is not a major ecological feature. Wetland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: P Protect the overall rural landscape and maintain its highly tranquil quality, managing the arable landscape to ensure the continued production of quality crops while also enhancing landscape features such as field boundaries and improving biodiversity, soil quality, reduction of soil erosion, water quality and flood risk management. In a region dominated by intensive cereal cropping, the limestone gorges provide a striking contrast in scenery. |
| Urban | u | No | The inaccessibility of the Limestone Gorges is a characteristic feature. Large mills, relics of the textile industry, are still imposing features within some gorges. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Lands | s | Yes | Unimproved magnesian limestone grassland is nationally scarce. In the Limestone Gorges, this type of grassland occurs extensively on the steep slope. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Milwood Brook and River Meden run through this LCT. Water, though present within the Limestone Gorges, is not a major ecological feature. Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees, as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

3.0 NCA38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

3.1 Key Characteristics

- A low-lying landscape of rolling ridges with rounded sandstone escarpments and large rivers running through broad valleys, underlain by Pennine Coal Measures;
- Local variations in landscape character reflecting variations in underlying geology;
- Several major rivers flow through the rural and urban areas of the NCA, generally from west to east in broad valleys;
- A mixed pattern of built-up areas, industrial land, pockets of dereliction and farmed open country;
- Small, fragmented remnants of pre-industrial landscapes and more recent creation of semi-natural vegetation, including woodlands, river valley habitats and subsidence flashes, with field boundaries of clipped hedges or fences;
- Many areas affected by urban fringe pressures creating fragmented landscapes, some with a dilapidated character, separated by substantial stretches of intact agricultural land in both arable and pastoral use;
- Many large country houses and estates established by wealthy industrialists in the 18th and 19th centuries and ancient monuments create focal points and important recreational opportunities within the landscape, such as Bretton Hall, Wentworth, Woodhouse, Temple Newsam, Nostell Priory, Bolsover Castle and the ruins of Codnor Castle;
- Extensive urbanisation, such as in the major cities of Leeds and Sheffield, with terraced and back-to-back housing and grand 19th-century municipal buildings and churches at their centres, now surrounded by extensive housing and industrial development;
- Widespread influence of transport routes, including canals, roads and railways, with ribbon developments emphasising the urban influence in the landscape;
- An extensive network of multi-user trails on former railway lines and canal towpaths, such as the Trans Pennine Trail and the Ebor Way; and
- Continuing development pressure including land renewal and regeneration projects, especially along river corridors and around towns.

3.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield within DCC

3.2.1 Coalfield Estatelands

A heavily industrialised and urbanised landscape characterised by settlements, parkland, woodland and dairy farming.

Key Characteristics:

- Gentle undulating landform;
- Dairy farming dominated by pasture; Plantation woodlands, tree belts and coverts;
- Fields of medium size defined by hedgerows;
- Extensive areas of existing and relict parkland;

- Occasional country houses with associated parkland trees; and
- Villages and towns with red brick former mining terraces and ribbon development.

Table 7: Coalfield Estatelands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Coalfield Estatelands | LCT contains extensive areas of existing and relict parkland (not registered); and Majority of the southern portion of LCT areas contained within Green Belt. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 8: Coalfield Estatelands - Landscape character attributes

| Coalfield Estatelands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Widespread small-medium plantations |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with ash, downy birch and hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Densely scattered |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages and scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone with Welsh slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Parkland |

Table 9: Coalfield Estatelands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture which supports dairy farming is the dominant and secondary habitat type for this LCT with occasional arable cropping confined to better draining soils.</p> <p>There are also extensive areas of amenity parkland at Shipley and Alfreton, and relict parkland east of Codnor.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Restore and enhance existing areas and create new landscapes through the inclusion of woodland and networks of green infrastructure to raise the overall quality of design and location of new developments. Regeneration and restoration of industrial sites should seek to create green infrastructure that links fragments of the natural environment, leading to a functioning network for wildlife and access and recreational amenities for people.</p> <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Medium to large scale woodland planting;</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows; and</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads.</p> <p>Tree cover is a key characteristic of this LCT. Woodlands form small to medium plantation blocks, tree belts and small coverts.</p> <p>Patches of ancient semi-natural woodland still persist, most notably around Shipley Park.</p> <p>Woodland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create widespread small-medium plantations.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Unimproved pasture which supports dairy farming is the dominant land use type for this LCT with occasional arable cropping confined to better draining soils. |
| Urban | u | Yes | Many traditional villages have been subsumed by modern urbanisation, more recent building development, associated with modern housing and industrial estates, is widespread, overwhelming many areas and creating a new urban edge to the countryside. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>Many habitats within the coalfield are small fragmented remnants of the pre-industrial landscape. A few have come about through recent changes created by coal mining and dereliction.</p> <p>There is evidence of previous extraction, as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England, relating to this LCT.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

3.2.2 Coalfield Village Farmlands

A broad industrial landscape characterised by villages, dairy farming and small woodlands.

Key Characteristics:

- Gentle undulating landform;
- Dairy farming with pasture and localised arable cropping;
- Relict ancient semi-natural woodland, copses and linear tree-belts;
- Dense Watercourse and scattered hedgerow trees;
- Towns and villages on ridge lines surrounded by remnant medieval strip fields;
- Network of small irregular lanes between larger urban roads; and
- Small villages with sandstone buildings expanded by red brick terrace housing and ribbon development.

Table 10: Coalfield Village Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Coalfield Village Farmlands | LCT contains dense Watercourse and scattered hedgerow trees; and The majority of the southern portion of LCT is contained within Green Belt. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 11: Coalfield Village Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Coalfield Village Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Acid grassland/heath |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small woodland |
| Woodland Vision | Densely scattered small woodland |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with ash, downy birch and hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages and scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone with Welsh slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Strip fields around villages, Industrial heritage |

Table 12: Coalfield Village Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution. Unimproved pasture is a primary habitat type within this LCT. Acid grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT. |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Restore and enhance existing areas and create new landscapes through the |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>inclusion of woodland and networks of green infrastructure to raise the overall quality of design and location of new developments. Regeneration and restoration of industrial sites should seek to create green infrastructure that links fragments of the natural environment, leading to a functioning network for wildlife and access and recreational amenities for people.</p> <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows; and</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create areas of densely scattered small woodland.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>Heathland is secondary habitat type within this LCT, although not specifically mentioned within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire assessment.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change. Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT, however, there are localised instances of arable cropland and therefore the creation of additional cropland may be appropriate. This should be verified on a case-by-case basis. |
| Urban | u | Yes | Widespread industrial and housing development has subsumed many of the villages, and new development continues to impact upon their distinctive character. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Lands | | Yes | The restoration of former colliery sites has resulted in the creation of new woodlands at Williamthorpe and Grassmoor. Large in size, this woodland planting contrasts with the small-scale landscape that surrounds it. There is evidence of previous extraction within this LCT as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England. |
| Rivers and Lakes | f | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change. Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

3.2.3 Estate Farmlands

A broad, gently undulating landscape characterised by mixed farming and sparse tree cover.

Key Characteristics:

- Broad, gently undulating landform;
- Mixed farming dominated by arable cropping;
- Localised woodland blocks and occasional trees;
- Hedgerows enclose medium size, semi-regular fields;
- Small villages, hamlets and scattered farmsteads constructed from local Coal Measures Sandstone, some expanded with red brick former mining terraces; and
- Open landscape with long distance views.

Table 13: Estate Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Estate Farmlands | Open landscape with long distance views only interrupted by gently undulating landform; Intensively managed landscape with little ecological value; and A portion of the LCT north of Stavely contained within Green Belt. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 14: Estate Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Estate Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------|---|
| Land Use | Mixed arable |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | Acid grassland/heath |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations and occasional remnant ancient woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional medium-large plantations |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with ash, downy birch and hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |

| Estate Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Watercourse | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages and scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone with Welsh slate or red clay pantile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Renishaw Park |

Table 15: Estate Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution. Acid grassland is a secondary land use within this LCT, Pastoral land is a local occurrence reflected by greater undulations in landform within the southern portion of the LCT, overall LCT supports a mixed farming system. |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Restore and enhance existing areas and create new landscapes through the inclusion of woodland and networks of green infrastructure to raise the overall quality of design and location of new developments. Regeneration and restoration of industrial sites should seek to create green infrastructure that links fragments of the natural environment, leading to a functioning network for wildlife and access and recreational amenities for people. Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Medium to large scale woodland planting;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows; and</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create occasional medium-large plantations.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | LCT already contains extensive areas of heathland, although not specifically mentioned within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire. |
| Wetland | f | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Due to the gently undulating landform arable cropland has dominated this LCT. Pastoral land is a local occurrence reflected by greater undulations in landform within the southern portion of the LCT, overall LCT supports a mixed farming system. |
| Urban | u | Yes | Since the decline of the coal industry, the LCT is still under pressure from new development which is likely to continue to impact on the rural character of the landscape through urban expansion. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Rivers and Lakes | | No | Not in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

3.2.4 Plateau Estate Farmlands

A gently undulating plateau of mixed farming characterised by dispersed settlement, small estate plantations and parkland.

Key Characteristics:

- Upstanding, gently undulating plateau;
- Mixed farming;
- Scattered hedgerow trees, predominantly oak;
- Small plantations;
- Parkland and ornamental tree belts associated with country houses;
- Medium to large fields;
- Relict parkland and former commons now enclosed and farmed;
- Dispersed estate farmsteads and cottages, built of red brick with clay tiles and Welsh slate roofs; and
- Sense of elevation with long distance views.

Table 16: Plateau Estate Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Plateau Estate Farmlands | Sense of elevation with long distance views; Whole LCT contained within Green Belt; and A small portion of LCT comprises Locko Park Registered Park and Garden. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 17: Plateau Estate Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Plateau Estate Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly and hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile or Welsh slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Locko Park |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 18: Plateau Estate Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution. Due to the gently undulating landform arable cropland has dominated this LCT. The nature of modern-day |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>agriculture and the increased shift towards arable farming is slowly altering the mixed farming practices of this landscape and beginning to impact on trees, field boundaries and wildlife habitats.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Restore and enhance existing areas and create new landscapes through the inclusion of woodland and networks of green infrastructure to raise the overall quality of design and location of new developments. Regeneration and restoration of industrial sites should seek to create green infrastructure that links fragments of the natural environment, leading to a functioning network for wildlife and access and recreational amenities for people.</p> <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Small scale woodland planting;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads;</p> <p>Conserve and renew ornamental plantations and individual parkland trees; and</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Woodland vision is to create thinly scattered small plantations. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | No | Not in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Due to the gently undulating landform arable cropland has dominated this LCT. The nature of modern-day agriculture and the increased shift towards arable farming is slowly altering the mixed farming practices of this landscape and beginning to impact on trees, field boundaries and wildlife habitats. |
| Urban | u | No | LCT is located adjacent the urban fringes of Derby and its satellite village, the landscape is under intense pressure from housing development, although this is somewhat deterred due to the LCT being sited wholly within Green Belt. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Lands | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

3.2.5 Riverside Meadows

A flat, riverside landscape characterised by dairy farming, wetland, watercourse trees and a legacy of industrial heritage.

Key Characteristics:

- Narrow rivers meander along flood plains of variable width;
- Remnant riverside vegetation, wetland and unimproved grassland;
- Dairy farming dominated by pasture;
- Dense tree cover along river channels;
- Scattered tree cover along boundaries; and
- Strong association with transport routes due to the presence of canals, railway lines and roads.

Table 19: Riverside meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Riverside meadows | Strong association with canals and railways linked with industrial heritage; Large portions of the LCT contained within Green Belt; and LCT sits wholly within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found [here](#): Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council

Table 20: Riverside meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Wetland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional small wet woodland |
| Woodland Type | Alder-crack willow with downy birch |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | N/A |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Traditional Materials | N/A (Sandstone and brick structures) |
| Cultural Interests | Canals, railways, industrial heritage |

Table 21: Riverside meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Restore and enhance existing areas and create new landscapes through the inclusion of woodland and networks of green infrastructure to raise the overall quality of design and location of new developments. Regeneration and restoration of industrial sites should seek to create green infrastructure that links fragments of the natural environment, leading to a functioning network for wildlife and access and recreational amenities for people.</p> <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species; and</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value</p> <p>The dense riverside trees create a sense of visual and ecological continuity along the length of the river.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create occasional small wet woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>Wetland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>The dense riverside trees create a sense of visual and ecological continuity along the length of the river, further emphasised by flood plain grazing marsh, and lowland meadows. Mining activities have created important wetland habitats, including subsidence flashes and reed-beds, of particular value along the River Rother and its tributaries.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Heavy, seasonally waterlogged soils have prohibited arable cropping and traditionally supported low intensity permanent pasture, grazed by cattle. |
| Urban | u | No | Due to the risk of flooding, this landscape historically would have been sparsely settled. In recent times, development has disregarded these earlier practices and encroached onto the river meadows. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Lands | | No | There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Rivers and Lakes | | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>The dense riverside trees create a sense of visual and ecological continuity along the length of the river, further emphasised by flood plain grazing marsh, and lowland meadows. Mining activities have created important wetland habitats, including subsidence flashes and reed-beds, of particular value along the River Rother and its tributaries.</p> |

action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

3.2.6 Wooded Farmlands

A small-scale undulating landscape rising to the magnesian limestone plateau. Characteristically well-wooded, sparsely settled and dominated by mixed farming.

Key Characteristics:

- Gently undulating landform on land rising to the magnesian limestone plateau;
- Mixed farming with pasture and occasional arable cropping;
- 'Heathy' vegetation associated with steeper slopes;
- Prominent tree cover with dense watercourse trees and scattered hedgerow trees;
- Species-rich hedgerows and trees associated with older boundaries;
- Ancient enclosure and remnant medieval strip fields; and
- Sparsely scattered farmsteads and wayside cottages.

Table 22: Wooded Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Wooded Farmlands | <p>Species-rich hedgerows and trees associated with older boundaries;</p> <p>Large portions of the LCT contained within CRoW access land;</p> <p>Small portions of the LCT contained within Green Belt to the northeast within close proximity to Barlborough;</p> <p>Lower areas of the LCT sit within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3; and</p> <p>Hardwick Park Registered Park and Garden.</p> |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 23: Wooded Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Wooded Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Widespread small irregular woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with ash, downy birch and hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Densely scattered |
| Amenity Trees | N/A |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone with Welsh slate or red clay pantile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Hardwick Park |

Table 24: Wooded Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Restore and enhance existing areas and create new landscapes through the inclusion of woodland and networks of green infrastructure to raise the overall quality of design and location of new developments. Regeneration and restoration of industrial sites should seek to create green infrastructure that links fragments of the natural environment, leading to a functioning network for wildlife and access and recreational amenities for people.</p> <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Small-medium scale woodland planting:</p> <p>Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting; and</p> <p>Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland and ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.</p> <p>Woodland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create widespread small irregular woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>There is localised heathy vegetation on steep slopes. Now only relict, this vegetation suggests a former, more extensive habitat.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Heavy soils, together with steep slopes, have minimised agricultural improvements, retaining the inherent pastoral land-use.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>This LCT is traditionally sparsely settled with only scattered farmsteads, however, the post war development of Bolsover and Glapwell has led to the expansion of these villages.</p> <p>Bolsover Castle, located at the top of the scarp slope to the magnesian limestone plateau, is an imposing landmark overlooking this LCT.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Sparsely Vegetated Lands | | No | For the most part, the slope is gently undulating, reflecting the underlying Middle Coal Measure Series. However, in the south and around Bolsover, the scarp slope is distinctly steeper. There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change. Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

3.2.7 Wooded Hills and Valleys

A broadly undulating upland with a strongly wooded character, defined by woodland, mixed farming and sparsely scattered settlement.

Key Characteristics:

- Upland area with broadly undulating topography;
- Moderately steep slopes, becoming steeper along stream valleys;
- Mixed farming, predominantly pasture;
- 'Heathy' vegetation visually prominent in many road verges;
- Densely scattered patches of ancient, semi-natural woodland;
- Woodland bands along stream valleys and on steep slopes;
- Dense riverside trees and scattered mature hedgerow trees;
- Medium to large fields, enclosed by hedgerows;
- Late enclosure on hill summits;
- Network of small irregular lanes; and

- Sparsely scattered settlement of farmsteads and hamlets.

Table 25: Wooded Hills and Valleys - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Wooded Hills and Valleys | LCT contains extensive areas of woodland including numerous patches of ancient, semi-natural woodland. Mature hedgerows and watercourse trees further emphasise the strong wooded character; and Majority of the eastern portion of LCT encompassing Dronfield is contained within Green Belt. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 26: Wooded Hills and Valleys - Landscape character attributes

| Wooded Hills and Valleys | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Other Habitat Type | Acid grassland/heath |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small-medium woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Widespread small-medium woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with ash, downy birch and hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Hamlets and scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone with Welsh or stone slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Ancient woodland |

Table 27: Wooded Hills and Valleys - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>Acid grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Restore and enhance existing areas and create new landscapes through the inclusion of woodland and networks of green infrastructure to raise the overall quality of design and location of new developments.</p> <p>Regeneration and restoration of industrial sites should seek to create green infrastructure that links fragments of the natural environment, leading to a functioning network for wildlife and access and recreational amenities for people.</p> <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Conserve, enhance and expand areas and corridors of semi-natural habitat such as grasslands and woodlands to create a functioning ecological network that links the fragmented patches of habitats through urban and sustainably farmed environments, thus assisting species and habitat adaptation to climate change, reducing soil erosion and diffuse pollution.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Small-medium scale woodland planting, conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Re-establish physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland;</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads;</p> <p>Where opportunities arise, the removal of coniferous woodland should be encouraged; and</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.</p> <p>Woodland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create widespread small-medium woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>'Heathy' vegetation defined within the key characteristics for this LCT with the majority of heathland vegetation situated along road verges, on steeper slopes and hill summits, it is unlikely for this management action to have Potential for Change due to the localised nature of the implementation of this management action.</p> <p>Heathland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>This LCT contains a mixed farming landscape, variations in landform have led to pasture is dominant in the steeper, more undulating land to the north and west, and arable cropping is more widespread in the gentler, low lying land in the south and east.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Urban | u | | Settlement character is sparsely scattered with farmsteads, hamlets and villages. Despite the immense pressures of development within Sheffield abutting to the north, as a result of planning constraints, the landscape has remained essentially rural and intact. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Lands | s | Yes | The undulating topography and steep valley slopes provide considerable ecological diversity. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage, enhance and extend wetland habitats associated with the rivers Aire, Calder, Dearne, Don, Rother and Erewash and their tributaries to increase the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flooding, improve water quality, and increase the resilience of these habitats, the riverine landscape and associated species to climate change. Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

4.0 NCA 50: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent

4.1 Key Characteristics

- Transitional zone between the Peak District National Park (in which a small part of the NCA lies at its northern end) and the heavily settled Derbyshire Coal Measures, lying at an elevation of between 100 m and 300 m. It includes numerous outlying ridges, separated by impressive river valleys;
- The bedrock geology is chiefly of Carboniferous sediments – Coal Measures in the east and Millstone Grit in the west. Mainly historical quarrying activity – largely for dimension stone – forms large scars on the landscape. There are small inliers of limestone around Ashover and Crich;
- The variable soil types reflect the underlying geology: shallow, free-draining, coarse and loamy soils are found on steeper slopes over the gritstone; slowly permeable and seasonally waterlogged gley soils are found on the lower-lying slopes. On the Coal Measures, seasonally wet loams to clays predominate;
- The main rivers are the Derwent and its tributaries, the Amber and the Ecclesbourne, which drain to the River Trent and then out to sea via the Humber. Minor rivers and brooks in the north of the area flow eastwards towards large urban areas, and are dammed to create reservoirs (including Carsington Water and Ogston Reservoir). The underlying aquifers and reservoirs at Linacre, near Chesterfield, also contribute to potable water supplies – both within and outside the NCA;
- Extensive deciduous woodland along valley slopes, isolated copses on higher ground, hedgerow trees, and some large blocks of conifer plantation all contribute to the overall wooded character. The Derwent Valley holds one of the largest networks of ancient semi-natural woodland in England;
- There is stock rearing on permanent grassland and rough grazing on characteristically poor-quality agricultural land; improved grassland with arable is concentrated on the valley sides and lower valley slopes, towards the south of the area;
- Field patterns are irregular and of varying size, depending on local topography. Hedgerows are predominantly mixed species – including hawthorn, holly and hazel, with oak and ash hedgerow trees at lower altitudes – and remain largely intact; above 200 m they are replaced by a more regular field pattern, enclosed by stone walls;
- Priority habitats include lowland mixed deciduous woodland, wet woodland, grazing marsh, upland heath, and lowland meadows;
- Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, stretching from Matlock to Derby, celebrates the industrial heritage of the 18th- and 19th-century cotton mills. It includes stone- and brick-built mill buildings and weirs along the River Derwent valley, as well as structures and buildings related to the Cromford Canal, together with the historic association with Sir Richard Arkwright;
- Historic mill towns are located along the course of the Derwent. Small market towns and villages tend to be nestled in valley bottoms, and are characterised by sturdy stone cottages and fine church buildings, with dispersed farmsteads in outlying enclosed land;

- The main transport corridors through the Derwent Valley are the local and mainline railways, and also the A6. The A38 trunk road runs through the east of the NCA, and a number of A roads cut the grain of the landscape east to west, providing access to the area and Peak District National Park from the surrounding coalfield towns; and
- The Derwent Valley Heritage Way, the Cromford Canal and former railway tracks all provide extensive recreational routes, and the latter also provide off-road cycling trails. Carsington Water is a key recreational asset. Outdoor recreational pursuits are popular in this area: walking, cycling, climbing, bouldering, fishing, sailing and kayaking.

4.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 50: Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent within DCC

4.2.1 Enclosed Moors and Heaths

An open, farming landscape on broad rolling hill summits with patches of remnant moorland. Dry-stone walls enclose regular fields and straight roads join occasional sandstone farmsteads.

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling upland summits;
- Thin soils over hard sandstone bedrock; Pastoral farming, sheep and dairy cattle;
- Widespread bracken, localised gorse and patches of remnant moorland habitat; Sparsely scattered trees beside farmsteads and along some field boundaries; Regular pattern of fields, bounded by dry-stone walls;
- Regular lanes with uniform width verges; and
- Sparsely scattered sandstone farmsteads with stone slate roofs.

Table 28: Enclosed Moors and Heaths - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|---------------------------|---|
| Enclosed Moors and Heaths | Sparsely wooded landscape; Widespread bracken, localised gorse and patches of remnant moorland habitat; Reversion to acid grassland and moorland where landscapes are not maintained; and Small portion of the LCT contained within Green Belt to the north. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character – Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 29: Enclosed Moors and Heaths – Landscape character attributes

| Enclosed Moors and Heaths | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Open/Unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Open/Unwooded |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone/sandstone with Staffordshire blue clay tile or stone slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Late parliamentary enclosures |

Table 30: Enclosed Moors and Heaths – Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | No | Much of the remnant and reverted grassland within this LCT comprises acid grassland and requires frequent liming. Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT. |
| Woodland and Forest | w | No | Not in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and manage the adaptive capacity of this transitional National Character Area, and its geodiversity and biodiversity value. Manage and increase the broadleaved native woodland resource for multiple benefits including biodiversity, atmospheric carbon regulation, soil erosion, controlling water run-off and contributing to coherent habitat |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | networks, while protecting intrinsic landscape character. Maintain the open character of the landscape as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. Woodland vision is to remain open/unwooded. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | Historically, much of this LCT would have been considered heathland, however, due to extensive cropland this has declined, although areas of heathland and gorse still exist along roadside verges particularly in the north. Moorland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Pasture is the dominant land-use in this LCT. Most of the fields have been ploughed and reseeded and are grazed by cattle and sheep. |
| Urban | u | No | LCT is characterised by scattered farmsteads. Occasional small field barns are a feature within this LCT. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | Occasional outcrops of Carboniferous Limestone also occur within the Wooded Slopes and Valleys at Ashover and Crich, and add some local diversity. There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

4.2.2. Gritstone Heaths and Commons

Gritstone hilltops and slopes characterised by geometric and regular field patterns with dry-stone walls or thorn hedges. Sandstone farmsteads are scattered through the landscape, with clustered cottages and roadside dwellings found on enclosed commons.

Key Characteristics:

- Hill summits and steep slopes over sandstone;
- Thin, well-drained soils over mudstones and glacial drift;
- Predominantly pastoral farming, with some arable;
- Widespread bracken and localised patches of heathy acid grassland with gorse;
- Some plantation woodland and amenity trees around farmsteads;
- Sparsely scattered trees along boundaries;
- Geometric and regular pattern of fields, bounded by dry-stone walls and some thorn hedges;
- Few straight roads with uniform width verges;
- Scattered sandstone farmsteads with Staffordshire blue clay tile or Welsh slate roofs; and
- Localised clusters of roadside cottages, situated on historic commons.

Table 31: Gritstone Heaths and Commons - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|------------------------------|--|
| Gritstone Heaths and Commons | Hill summits and steep slopes over sandstone; Sparsely wooded landscape; Small and medium size regular and geometric fields, associated with late parliamentary enclosure; and Majority of the LCT contained with Green Belt. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 32: Gritstone Heaths and Commons - Landscape character attributes

| Gritstone Heaths and Commons | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|------------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Acid grassland/heath |
| Woodland Character | Occasional small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional small plantations |
| Woodland Type | N/A |

| Gritstone Heaths and Commons | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|------------------------------|---|
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows and walls |
| Settlement Character | Localised clusters of cottages and farms |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone with blue tile or Welsh slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Late parliamentary enclosures, historic commons |

Table 33: Gritstone Heaths and Commons - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT. Acid grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT. |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and manage the adaptive capacity of this transitional National Character Area, and its geodiversity and biodiversity value. Manage and increase the broadleaved native woodland resource for multiple benefits including biodiversity, atmospheric carbon regulation, soil erosion, controlling water run-off and contributing to coherent habitat networks, while protecting intrinsic landscape character. The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines: Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species; Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value; Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads; |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | Where opportunities arise, the removal of coniferous plantation woodland should be encouraged: and Maintain open character of landscape. Woodland vision is to retain areas of occasional small plantations. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. Historic connotations relating to heathland through former common land. Patches of heathy grassland occur on slopes over thin acid soils. Bracken is a common sight along roadside verges. Acid grassland/Heathland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Land use is predominantly pastoral with occasional arable farming due to clayey loam soils which are poorly draining and can become waterlogged. |
| Urban | u | No | Localised clusters of dwellings and small farmsteads, situated close to roads. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

4.2.3 Riverside Meadows

Broad, flat flood plains hold meandering rivers, with scattered trees along the river bank. Scattered boundary trees and transport routes punctuate the pastoral landscape.

Key Characteristics:

- Flat, broad flood plains containing meandering rivers;
- Seasonally waterlogged soils over alluvium;
- Low intensity permanent pasture;

- Localised patches of rushes in damp hollows;
- Scattered, locally dense trees along watercourses, widespread alder and localised willow;
- Scattered trees along field boundaries;
- Regular shaped fields, bounded by hawthorn hedges;
- Lanes along edges or crossing flood plains with gritstone bridges over the rivers;
- Railway lines with secondary woodland along embankments; and
- Historic textile mills.

Table 34: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Riverside Meadows | Flat, broad flood plains containing meandering rivers; Low intensity permanent pasture; LCT is largely flood plain with very little built development; and LCT is contained within flood zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 35: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Wetland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional small wet woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Alder-crack willow with downy birch and goat willow |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | N/A (Sandstone and red brick mills) |
| Cultural Interests | Historic mills, canals and railways |

Table 36: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Heavy soils and risk of flooding make the flood plain difficult to work for arable cropping, leaving permanent grassland as the dominant land use.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and manage the adaptive capacity of this transitional National Character Area, and its geodiversity and biodiversity value. Manage and increase the broadleaved native woodland resource for multiple benefits including biodiversity, atmospheric carbon regulation, soil erosion, controlling water run-off and contributing to coherent habitat networks, while protecting intrinsic landscape character.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species; and</p> <p>Ensure the balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value.</p> <p>Although this LCT is relatively unwooded the woodland vision is to create areas of occasional small wet woodland.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Heathland is not a dominant feature within this LCT although The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines state that management actions should ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Protect and enhance the rivers Derwent, Amber and Ecclesbourne (and their flood plains).</p> <p>The River Derwent and River Ecclesbourne flow through broad flood plains. The wet meadows contained within this LCT, remain partially flooded for much of the year. They support marsh vegetation with rushes .</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>Wetland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Heavy soils and risk of flooding make the flood plain difficult to work for arable cropping, leaving permanent grassland as the dominant land use.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | Yes | <p>Due to the risk of flooding, this LCT would have been unsettled although some modern housing estates now extend into the flood plain.</p> <p>There are potential opportunities for further urban expansion, however, this should be reviewed on a case by case basis.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>In accordance with SEO 4: Protect and enhance the rivers Derwent, Amber and Ecclesbourne (and their flood plains).</p> <p>The River Derwent and River Ecclesbourne flow through broad flood plains. The wet meadows contained within this LCT, remain partially flooded for much of the year. They support marsh vegetation with rushes.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

4.2.4 Settled Farmlands

A gently undulating to rolling pastoral landscape over mixed geology, characterised by density scattered hedgerow trees and along watercourses. Villages and sparsely scattered farmsteads give the impression of a well-settled landscape.

Key Characteristics:

- Gently undulating to rolling upland landscape;
- Seasonally waterlogged soils over mixed Carboniferous and Permo-Triassic geology and glacial till;
- Dairy farming on permanent pasture and grass leys;
- Scattered hedgerow trees, predominantly ash, that provide filtered views;
- Dense lines of trees along watercourses;
- Small to medium sized semi-regular and strip fields enclosed by hedgerows and occasional dry-stone walls;
- Widespread ridge and furrow;
- Dense network of winding lanes with irregular width verges; and
- Discrete villages with buildings of limestone and Staffordshire blue tiles or Welsh slate roofs and scattered outlying farmsteads all creating the sense of a well-settled landscape.

Table 37: Settled Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Settled Farmlands | <p>A well-settled landscape with important cultural and historic settlement patterns dating back from prehistoric, to roman and even medieval in origin;</p> <p>Heavy emphasis on pasture land with dairy and stock rearing; and</p> <p>Widespread ridge and furrow.</p> |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 38: Settled Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Settled Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Neutral and calcareous grassland |
| Woodland Character | Unwooded |

| Settled Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Woodland Vision | Localised small woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages and scattered farms and cottages |
| Traditional Materials | Limestone with Welsh slate or red brick with blue clay tile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Strip fields, ridge and furrow |

Table 39: Settled Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>The land use is predominantly pasture with dairying and stock rearing. Some pasture is improved with grass leys.</p> <p>Much of this agricultural landscape is of little ecological value due to the intensification of farming, however, there are isolated patches of unimproved grassland and hay meadow associated with steeper slopes. Where there are limestone outcrops around Hognaston Winn, there is localised calcareous grassland.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Neutral and calcareous grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and manage the adaptive capacity of this transitional National Character Area, and its geodiversity and biodiversity value. Manage and increase the broadleaved native woodland resource for multiple benefits including biodiversity, atmospheric carbon regulation, soil erosion, controlling water run-off and contributing to coherent habitat networks, while protecting intrinsic landscape character.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Due to the gently rolling nature of the landform within this LCT, landscapes are heavily farmed which ensures woodland is not a typical characteristic associated with this landscape. Exceptions to this are the small broadleaved estate woodlands associated with the parkland landscape around and including the settlement at Tissington. There are also localised parkland trees.</p> <p>Despite the lack of woodland, tree cover is well represented throughout the LCT due to the densely scattered hedgerow and watercourse trees. Trees also help to define the small and medium scale by filtering views through the landscape.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Small-medium scale woodland planting:</p> <p>Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with exiting habitats and woodland;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create areas of localised small woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | In accordance with SEO 4: Protect and enhance the rivers Derwent, Amber and Ecclesbourne (and their flood plains). |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | Primarily, this is a cultural landscape shaped by its settlement pattern and land-use. A key feature is its settled character. The area demonstrates human activity from the prehistoric period with evidence of settlement since the roman period and many of the villages are early medieval in origin. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | There are isolated patches of unimproved grassland and hay meadow associated with steeper slopes, which provide local floristic interest. Where the limestone outcrops, around Hognaston Winn, there is localised calcareous grassland. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Protect and enhance the rivers Derwent, Amber and Ecclesbourne (and their flood plains). Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

4.2.5 Woodland Farmlands

A small-scale undulating landscape rising to the magnesian limestone plateau. Characteristically well-wooded, sparsely settled and dominated by mixed farming.

Characteristics:

- Gently undulating landform on land rising to the magnesian limestone plateau;
- Mixed farming with pasture and occasional arable cropping;
- 'Heathy' vegetation associated with steeper slopes;
- Prominent tree cover with dense watercourse trees and scattered hedgerow trees;
- Species-rich hedgerows and trees associated with older boundaries;
- Ancient enclosure and remnant medieval strip fields; and

- Sparsely scattered farmsteads and wayside cottages.

Table 40: Wooded Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Wooded Farmlands | Well-wooded landscape dominated by mixed farming practices; 'Heathy' vegetation associated with steeper slopes; and Portions of the LCT contained within green belt. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 41: Wooded Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Wooded Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small-medium woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Widespread small-medium woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Hamlets and scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone with Welsh or stone slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Green lanes |

Table 42: Wooded Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Seasonally waterlogged soils are found over the mudstone bands, these heavy soils are difficult to work and would traditionally have been supported permanent grassland for grazing and hay. Arable cropping would have been largely confined to lighter soils.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and manage the adaptive capacity of this transitional National Character Area, and its geodiversity and biodiversity value. Manage and increase the broadleaved native woodland resource for multiple benefits including biodiversity, atmospheric carbon regulation, soil erosion, controlling water run-off and contributing to coherent habitat networks, while protecting intrinsic landscape character.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Small-medium scale woodland planting;</p> <p>Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with exiting habitats and woodland;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.</p> <p>Woodland and hedgerows trees are prevalent, creating a well wooded landscape.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create areas of widespread small- medium woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>On thin, well-drained soils over sandstone, there are patches of heathy acid grassland with bracken, gorse and occasional heather.</p> <p>Bracken also occurs along field boundaries and on road verges.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Protect and enhance the rivers Derwent, Amber and Ecclesbourne (and their flood plains).</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>Arable cropping is largely confined to lighter soils within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Farmsteads and cottages are dispersed throughout the landscape. The presence of coal in the area and the expansion of Chesterfield have contributed to widespread development of red brick housing. Of special interest is the development at Wingerworth, on the site of a former country house park, reflecting its former boundaries.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Protect and enhance the rivers Derwent, Amber and Ecclesbourne (and their flood plains).</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | A network of watercourses, often linked with woodland bands, provides the key wildlife habitat in this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

4.2.6 Slopes and Valleys

A broadly undulating upland with a strongly wooded character, defined by woodland, mixed farming and sparsely scattered settlement.

Key Characteristics:

- Upland area with broadly undulating topography;
- Moderately steep slopes, becoming steeper along stream valleys;
- Mixed farming, predominantly pasture;
- 'Heathy' vegetation visually prominent in many roads verges;
- Densely scattered patches of ancient, semi-natural woodland;
- Woodland bands along stream valleys and on steep slopes;
- Dense riverside trees and scattered mature hedgerow trees;
- Medium to large fields, enclosed by hedgerows;
- Late enclosure on hill summits;
- Network of small irregular lanes; and
- Sparsely scattered settlement of farmsteads and hamlets.

Table 43: Wooded Slopes and Valleys - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|---------------------------|---|
| Wooded Slopes and Valleys | Well-wooded landscape dominated by mixed farming practices; Moderately steep slopes, becoming steeper along stream valleys; Contains scattered patches of ancient, semi-natural woodland; and Northern portion of LCT west of Chesterfield and Dronfield contained within green belt. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 44: Wooded Slopes and Valleys - Landscape character attributes

| Wooded Slopes and Valleys | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small-medium woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Widespread small-medium irregular woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Hamlets and scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone with stone slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Green lanes, Ancient woodland |

Table 45: Wooded Slopes and Valleys - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | Soils in this LCT are agriculturally poor and consequently, the dominant land use is permanent grassland for pasture or hay. There are occasional arable fields on the better drained soils over sandstone. Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT. |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and manage the adaptive capacity of this transitional National Character Area, and its geodiversity and biodiversity value. Manage and increase the broadleaved native woodland resource for multiple benefits including biodiversity, atmospheric carbon regulation, soil erosion, controlling water run-off and contributing to |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>coherent habitat networks, while protecting intrinsic landscape character.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Small-medium scale woodland planting;</p> <p>Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.</p> <p>Small areas of wet woodland occur on the waterlogged soils of flushed slopes and low lying ground.</p> <p>Woodland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create areas of widespread small-medium irregular woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>On the thin, well drained soils over sandstone there are patches of heathy acid grassland with bracken, gorse and occasionally heather.</p> <p>Bracken is widespread along field boundaries and on road verges.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Protect and enhance the rivers Derwent, Amber and Ecclesbourne (and their flood plains).</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>Small areas of wet woodland occur on the waterlogged soils of flushed slopes and low lying ground.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>Soils in this LCT are agriculturally poor and consequently, the dominant land use is permanent grassland for pasture or hay. There are occasional arable fields on the better drained soils over sandstone.</p> <p>Creation of cropland may be appropriate, however, this should be verified on a case by case basis.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Farmsteads are dispersed throughout the landscape, though there are occasional clusters of farmsteads and cottages.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>There are localised seams of coal, which have been exploited by mining.</p> <p>There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Protect and enhance the rivers Derwent, Amber and Ecclesbourne (and their flood plains).</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>A network of watercourses, often linked with woodland bands, provides the key wildlife habitat in this LCT.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

5.0 NCA 51: Dark Peak

5.1 Key Characteristics

- Sharply defined, elevated and vast plateau with gritstone ridges and edges and long, uninterrupted views;
- Wild and remote semi-natural character created by blanket bog, dwarf shrub heath and heather moorland which support internationally important habitats and assemblages of upland birds and breeding waders;
- Contrasting valley heads created by a combination of sheltered, deeply-incised cloughs with fast-flowing streams around the plateau margins, with their greater diversity of vegetation, including semi-natural broadleaved woodland;
- Pastoral character of margins created by in-bye land with dispersed farmsteads, gritstone wall boundaries (hedgerows in valley bottoms) and the small scale of enclosure;
- Major valleys, some of which are dominated by coniferous woodland and reservoirs; these supply drinking water to distant urban conurbations including Derby and Nottingham. The wider valleys also provide habitats for wintering and breeding birds and other important species such as fungi, as well as high- quality recreational experiences for visitors;
- Durable and stocky architectural style to dispersed buildings and settlements constructed from local gritstone with typical blackened appearance;
- Extensive prehistoric field systems and settlement behind the gritstone edges, with early post-glacial occupation beneath the higher, deeper peats; and
- Historic routes traverse the moorland as well as more modern trails such as the Pennine Bridleway and Pennine Way. More recent road and rail routes are located along valley bottoms.

5.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 51: Dark Peak within DCC

5.2.1 Enclosed Moorland

An open, upland-farming landscape on broad rolling hill summits with patches of remnant moorland. Dry-stone walls enclose regular fields and straight roads join occasional isolated farmsteads.

Key Characteristics:

- Moderate to steeply sloping gritstone hills;
- Gritstone outcrops on hill summits and steeper slopes;
- Peaty, acidic soils;
- Rough grazing and areas of damp pasture with patches of rushes;
- Patches of heather, gorse and bilberry, especially where fields are reverting back to moorland;
- Medium to large regular fields bounded by dry-stone walls;
- Unwooded landscape other than occasional amenity trees around farmsteads and settlements;
- Sparsely scattered gritstone farmsteads some with stone slate roofs; and
- Open landscape with expansive views.

Table 46: Enclosed Moorland - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Enclosed Moorland | Peaty, acidic soils; Open landscape with expansive views; Distinct lack of woodland within this LCT; Patches of heather, gorse and bilberry, especially where fields are reverting back to moorland; and Large areas of CRoW access land contained within LCT. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 47: Enclosed Moorland - Landscape character attributes

| Enclosed Moorland | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone with stone slate or Staffordshire blue clay roof tile |
| Cultural Interests | Late parliamentary enclosures |

Table 48: Enclosed Moorland - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>The resultant land use is low quality pasture for stock rearing on wet moorland.</p> <p>Where pasture has been improved, or on free draining soils, some dairy farming occurs.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to remain open/unwooded however existing woodland is to be managed and enhanced.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Moorland character exists within this LCT with sporadic occurrences of gorse and bracken. Where marginal fields have been abandoned, these have quickly reverted back to moor and heath with birch scrub.</p> <p>Moorland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | The settlement pattern is dispersed with farmsteads sparsely scattered through the landscape. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>At higher elevations and associated with steeper slopes, bare rock is common, providing another valuable habitat. This is an important landscape for ground nesting birds.</p> <p>There is evidence of previous extraction within this LCT as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

5.2.2 Moorland Fringe

A semi-natural moorland landscape of rough grazing fringing the high moor plateaux with exposed rocky outcrops and open, expansive views.

Key Characteristics:

- Moderate to steep upland sloped fringing the open moors;
- Exposed rock and scree sloped associated with gritstone edges;
- Shallow peaty soils;
- Moorland slopes grazed by sheep;
- Extensive semi-natural habitat of heather with rushes in damp hollows;
- Distinct absence of trees; and
- Open, exposed landscape with expansive views.

Table 49: Moorland Fringe - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Moorland Fringe | Extensive semi-natural habitat of heather with rushes in damp hollows; Moorland slopes grazed by sheep; Distinct absence of trees; and Open, exposed landscape with expansive views. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 50: Moorland Fringe - Landscape character attributes

| Moorland Fringe | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | Treeless |
| Watercourse Trees | Treeless |
| Amenity Trees | Treeless |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled (very occasional farm) |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone with stone slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | None |

Table 51: Moorland Fringe - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Owing to its elevation and poor quality soils, this is a very marginal agricultural landscape, used primarily as rough grazing for sheep rearing.</p> <p>Much improved pasture has now been abandoned and is now reverting back to semi-natural vegetation associated with moorland.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Where opportunities arise, the removal of coniferous plantation woodland should be encouraged as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to remain open/unwooded, although there may be opportunities for the removal of coniferous woodland.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>A landscape with widespread patches of semi-natural vegetation either as heather moorland or acid grassland. In abandoned pastures there are extensive patches of bracken and gorse.</p> <p>Moorland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | Large areas of this LCT are unsettled although there is the occasional isolated farmstead. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | Where the upper slopes form edges to the moorland, there are extensive amounts of bare rock and scree, which also act as valuable habitats. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

5.2.3 Open Moors

An upland landscape of rolling highland plateaux and heather moorland with a distinct sense of remoteness and 'wildness'.

Key Characteristics:

- Gently to moderately rolling highland plateau;
- Raw peat soils and blanket bog over gritstone;
- Unenclosed heather moorland extensively grazed by sheep;
- Distinct absence of trees;
- Many important archaeological (prehistoric) features; and
- Open and exposed landscape with expansive views.

Table 52: Open Moors - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Open Moors | Unenclosed heather moorland extensively grazed by sheep; Distinct absence of trees; Open and exposed landscape with expansive views; and Majority of LCT contained within CRoW Access land. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 53: Open Moors - Landscape character attributes

| Open Moors | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Other Habitat Type | Acid grassland |
| Woodland Character | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | Treeless |
| Watercourse Trees | Treeless |
| Amenity Trees | Treeless |
| Boundary Type | None |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | Prehistoric earthworks, standing stones |

Table 54: Open Moors - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This landscape has low agricultural value being used predominantly for sheep grazing or grouse in an extensive farming system.</p> <p>Acid grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 4: Objectives of SEO 4 include to increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities. This is not considered appropriate within his LCT.</p> <p>This is a treeless landscape owing to the elevation, the wetness of the underlying soils and the generally harsh climate that makes tree growth difficult.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to remain open/unwooded.</p> <p>There are no management actions as set out by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character: and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>This LCT is a landscape characterised by extensive semi- natural vegetation in the form of heather moorland.</p> <p>Moorland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | The soils within this LCT are classed as raw peat and blanket bog. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | This LCT is an unsettled landscape owing to the hostile climate and low agricultural value of the land. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | The hard bedrock is difficult to erode, creating broad tracts of upstanding highland, rising to over 600 metres at Kinder Scout. The LCT is characterised by moorland plateaux and hill summits, there may be potential to enhance sparsely vegetated land on the moorland slopes, although this should be reviewed on a case by case basis. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

5.2.4 Riverside Meadows

Gentle valley floors contain upland rivers, lined with dense trees. Hedgerows enclose small, sub-regular fields in a pastoral landscape, interrupted by the occasional historic mill.

Key Characteristics:

- Gentle valley floors, with narrow flood plains containing meandering rivers;
- Seasonally waterlogged soils over alluvium;
- Low intensity permanent pasture;
- Localised patches of rushes in damp hollows;
- Dense trees along watercourse, comprising of alder and willow;
- Scattered boundary trees;
- Small, sub-regular fields enclosed by hedgerows and dry-stone walls;
- Lanes along edges or crossing floor plains with gritstone bridges over the rivers;
- Industrial heritage associated with gritstone mills powered by water; and

- Strong sense of enclosure from adjacent slopes.

Table 55: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Riverside Meadows | Low intensity permanent pasture; Dense trees along watercourse; Industrial heritage associated with gritstone mills powered by water; Strong sense of enclosure from adjacent slopes; and LCT is contained within flood zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 56: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Wetland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional small wet woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Alder-crack willow with downy birch and goat willow |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | N/A (Gritstone mills) |
| Cultural Interests | Historic mills, canals and railways |

Table 57: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Some areas are permanently waterlogged and some wet hollows retain flood water long after the majority of the floods have subsided. The traditional land-use is permanent grassland due to the heavy waterlogged nature of the soils and harsh climate.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value; and</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create areas of occasional small wet woodlands</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Further habitat diversity is provided by bands of scrub and secondary woodland that are colonising abandoned pasture.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>The wet meadows, found in hollows in the flood plain, remain partly flooded for much of the year. They support a marshy vegetation with rushes and are important remnants of a diminishing habitat type.</p> <p>Wetland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | Due to the risk of flooding, this landscape would have been unsettled, with farmsteads being located on the valley sides. The valleys were transformed during the industrial revolution when industrialists built large mills to harness the power of the water. Some mills with associated weirs and pools remain today, converted to new uses. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

5.2.5 Settled Valley Pastures

A settled, pastoral farming landscape on gently sloping lower valley sides, dissected by stream valleys. Dense watercourse trees, scattered boundary trees and tree groups around settlement contribute to a strongly wooded character.

Key Characteristics:

- Moderate to steep lower valley sloped dissected by stream valleys;
- Poorly draining soils over Carboniferous shale and sandstone;
- Pastoral farming with extensive improved pasture;
- Bracken in some road verges and rushes associated with damp hollows;
- Wooded character associated with tree belts along streams and cloughs, settlement and farmsteads;
- Small irregular fields enclosed by mixed species hedgerows and occasional dry-stone walls;
- Network of winding lanes with irregular verges, sometimes sunken on steeper slopes;
- Settled landscape of small nucleated settlements and scattered stone farmsteads with stone late roofs;
- Stone terraced housing on lower slopes associated with historic mills; and
- Enclosed landscape with views filtered by trees.

Table 58: Settled Valley Pastures - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Settled Valley Pastures | Pastoral farming with extensive improved pasture; Strong wooded character comprised of dense watercourse trees, scattered boundary trees and tree groups around settlements; LCT contained within Green Belt on the western side of the Peak District National Park; and Areas of Ancient Woodland located within eastern portion of LCT. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 59: Settled Valley Pastures - Landscape character attributes

| Settled Valley Pastures | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Densely scatter small woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Widespread small-medium woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows (Occasional wall) |
| Settlement Character | Villages and scattered farms and cottages |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone with Welsh slate or stone slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Industrial terraces, mills |

Table 60: Settled Valley Pastures - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Much of this landscape is intensively farmed as permanent pasture and improved grassland and on the upper slopes over gritstone, there may be localised patches of acid grassland.</p> <p>The traditional land-use on these soils is stock rearing and dairying with much of the land down to permanent pasture.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Small-medium scale woodland planting;</p> <p>Where opportunities arise, the removal of coniferous plantation woodland should be encouraged;</p> <p>Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create areas of widespread small- medium woodlands.</p> <p>Woodland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Where the soils are thinner and free draining, particularly associated with steep slopes and road verges, heathy plants like bracken, heather and bilberry are locally common.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | The nature of the underlying geology ensures there is variation in the soils. On the lower, less steep slopes, over shale, the soils are slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged and loamy, over clay. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | Yes | A well settled landscape containing towns, villages, small groups of cottages, and scattered farmsteads. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>Where the soils are thinner and free draining, particularly associated with steep slopes and road verges, heathy plants like bracken, heather and bilberry are locally common.</p> <p>There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

5.3 Landscape Character Types within NCA 51: Dark Peak within Peak District National Park

5.3.1 Enclosed Gritstone Upland

An enclosed upland pastoral landscape associated with high uplands, ridge tops and sloped. This is a landscape of isolated stone farmsteads, straight roads and regular fields enclosed by drystone walls, largely reclaimed from moorland during Parliamentary Enclosure. Localised boulder fields and rocky outcrops are a feature in places, often associated with patches of remnant moorland vegetation.

Key Characteristics:

- High uplands and ridge tops with some steeper slopes;
- Thin soils over gritstone bedrock with localised pockets of peat;
- Permanent pasture and rough grazing enclosed by gritstone walls;
- Remnant patches of rough land with bracken and gorse, some heather and bilberry;
- Regular pattern of medium to large fields;
- Straight roads with wide verges of grass and, in some places, heather;
- Isolated gritstone farmsteads with stone slate roofs; and
- Tree groups around farmsteads providing shelter.

Table 61: Enclosed Gritstone Upland - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|---------------------------|--|
| Enclosed Gritstone Upland | Permanent pasture and rough grazing enclosed by gritstone walls; and Remnant patches of rough land with bracken and gorse, some heather and bilberry. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 62: Enclosed Gritstone Upland - Landscape character attributes

| Enclosed Gritstone Upland | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture/semi-improved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |

| Enclosed Gritstone Upland | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|--|
| Woodland Type | Oak, Ash & Sycamore |
| Hedgerow Trees | Occasional hedgerows |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Hamlets & scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone with stone slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 63: Enclosed Gritstone Upland - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This is a landscape of mostly improved or semi-improved permanent pasture with sheep and cattle grazing and some rough grazing.</p> <p>There are some reseeded grass leys and very occasional arable fields. Soils are mostly of poor quality and some fields are dominated by rushes or are reverting to moorland, providing habitat diversity.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture / semi-improved pasture are primary habitat types within this LCT.</p> <p>Overall strategy is to enhance ecological value and connectivity of wet pasture in a mixed farming regime.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Largely a treeless landscape although there are occasional tree groups, normally associated with farmsteads. There</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | are also some shelterbelts and occasional blocks of 19 th or 20 th century coniferous woodland. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features</p> <p>There are opportunities within the Enclosed Gritstone Uplands of the Dark Peak to diversify the existing grassland-based landscapes. This can be achieved by creating new moorland/heath and extending and linking existing patches of moor/heath.</p> <p>Heath associated species are a common feature within this LCT.</p> <p>Moorland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Management strategy is to diversify the existing grassland-based landscapes through the creation / extension / linking of moorland / heath.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Overall strategy is to enhance ecological value and connectivity of wet pasture in a mixed farming regime.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance areas of wetland due to the overall reduction of wetland areas within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>Very occasional arable fields where appropriate although limited due to poor quality soils.</p> <p>Overall strategy is to enhance ecological value and connectivity of wet pasture in a mixed farming regime.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Urban | u | No | This LCT is largely unsettled, although there are areas that include isolated farmsteads. There are small groups of settlement, such as Moorfield, adjacent to Glossop. Overall strategy is to retain historic pattern of sparse settlement and enclosure. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | There are no active quarries within the Dark Peak but there are remains of old quarries, which form an important part of the character of the area. They are a valued cultural heritage, biodiversity, educational and, particularly, recreational resource, with many old quarries being used for rock climbing and bouldering. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| | | | |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

Additional Comments:

This is a sparsely settled pastoral upland landscape. Priorities for the landscape include maintaining the historic pattern of sparse settlement and enclosure, and protecting and managing the enclosed character of the landscape, whilst enhancing the ecological value and connectivity of wet pasture in a mixed farming regime.

5.3.2 Moorland Slopes and Cloughs

Steep slopes and cloughs rising to open moorland on the high plateaux above, with widespread rough grassland and heather moor, grazed by sheep. This is a wild unsettled landscape with exposed views over lower ground.

Key Characteristics:

- Steep slopes and cloughs rising to the moorland plateaux above;
- Prominent gritstone outcrops, boulders and scree slopes;
- Thin soils over gritstone bedrock;
- Rough acid grassland, bracken and heather moorland grazed by sheep;
- Exposed views over lower ground, sometime limited by clough sides;
- Numerous springs and flushes arising on slopes and clough sides; and
- Relict areas of oak-birch woodland in cloughs.

Table 64: Moorland Slopes and Cloughs - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Moorland Slopes and Cloughs | Steep slopes and cloughs rising to the moorland plateaux above; Prominent gritstone outcrops, boulders and scree slopes; and Rough acid grassland, bracken and heather moorland grazed by sheep. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 65: Moorland Slopes and Cloughs - Landscape character attributes

| Moorland Slopes and Cloughs | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Occasional small plantation woodland |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Sessile oak and pedunculate oak, with birch and holly |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | Densely scattered |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone with stone slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 66: Moorland Slopes and Cloughs - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Owing to its elevation and poor-quality soils, this is a very marginal agricultural landscape, used primarily as rough grazing for sheep. This LCT contains areas of acid grassland.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a primary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Largely a treeless landscape, however, scattered trees and patches of scrub often occur within cloughs, while occasional small plantation woodlands can sometimes be found on moorland slopes.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance woodlands as well as create / restore clough woods.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Owing to the poor-quality soils, this is a landscape with widespread patches of semi-natural vegetation, usually comprising a mixture of heather and bilberry moorland, with areas of acid grassland. Patches of bracken are regularly extensive.</p> <p>Moorland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Management strategy is to diversify the existing grassland-based landscapes through the creation / extension / linking of moorland / heath.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>This is a very sparsely settled landscape with occasional isolated gritstone farmsteads and cottages.</p> <p>There are also occasional field barns and stock pens within the landscape, associated with sheep farming.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>There are no active quarries within the Dark Peak but there are remains of old quarries, which form an important part of the character of the area. They are a valued cultural heritage, biodiversity, educational and, particularly, recreational resource, with many old quarries being used for rock climbing and bouldering.</p> <p>This LCT is defined by its steep upper slopes and edges. Cloughs are a common feature within this landscape.</p> <p>Where the upper slopes form edges to the moorland and on the sides of steep cloughs, there are frequent extensive amounts of bare rock and scree, which can provide for a range of valuable habitats.</p> <p>Evidence of relict gritstone quarrying and a limited amount of coal mining carried out on the moorland slopes in the north-east of the area on Meltham Moor.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

Additional Comments:

This is a steeply sloping landscape with dramatic geology such as scree slopes and gritstone outcrops, as well as a diversity of other features including flushes, springs, rush pastures and clough woodlands. Priorities for this landscape character type should be to enhance landscape integrity and connectivity, particularly of the clough woods. This should be achieved through woodland expansion and conservation, whilst maintaining the valued recreational and cultural heritage resources and controlling associated localised impacts such as footpath erosion, within a sustainable land management system.

5.3.3. Open Moors

An open undulating high gritstone plateau with extensive blanket peat covered by cottongrass bog and heather moorland. This is wild, unsettled landscape with wide views to distant surrounding hills.

Key Characteristics:

- Undulating high gritstone plateau;
- Localised rock outcrops and boulders, in the form of rocky edges and tors;
- Thick deposits of peat with incised groughs (drainage channels);
- Unenclosed heather and grass moorland and extensive areas of blanket bog;
- Rough grazing land; and
- Wild, unsettled landscape with vast panoramas over surrounding hills and lower ground.

Table 67: Open Moors - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Open Moors | Thick deposits of peat with incised groughs (drainage channels); Unenclosed heather and grass moorland and extensive areas of blanket bog; Wild, unsettled landscape with vast panoramas over surrounding hills and lower ground; and Majority of the LCT contained within CRoW access land. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 68: Open Moors - Landscape character attributes

| Open Moors | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | Treeless |
| Watercourse Trees | Treeless |
| Amenity Trees | Treeless |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled (very occasional farm) |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 69: Open Moors - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This landscape generally has a low agricultural value being used predominantly for sheep grazing, or grouse rearing.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a primary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost |
|--|--|--|--|--|

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The high moors are generally an open, treeless landscape with expansive views. The elevation, wetness of the soils and harsh climate make tree growth difficult.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Moorland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Much of this landscape is covered by blanket bog dominated by cottongrass or a mixture of cottongrass and dwarf shrubs such as heather.</p> <p>Management strategy is to enhance and restore moorland landscapes / encourage diverse approaches in moorland management / and to create, extend and link areas of heath/moor.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Past peat cutting has resulted in areas of moorland where much of the peat has been stripped away. There are some small reservoirs in this landscape character type, they tend to be associated with the edges of the Open Moors.</p> <p>Management strategy is to create and link patches of wetland farmland habitats.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | This is an unsettled landscape with built features existing only locally. There are occasional grouse butts and shooting cabins, and isolated farm buildings. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | There are no active quarries within the Dark Peak but there are remains of old quarries, which form an important part of the character of the area. They are a valued cultural heritage, biodiversity, educational and, particularly, recreational resource, with many old quarries being used for rock climbing and bouldering. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Past peat cutting has resulted in areas of moorland where much of the peat has been stripped away. There are some small reservoirs in this landscape character type, they tend to be associated with the edges of the Open Moors. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

Additional Comments:

This is the most open and unsettled landscape in the Peak District, characterised by expansive open views with blanket bog and upland heath. Priorities are to protect or enhance the integrity of moorlands, which are currently in poor condition; to manage obvious linear features such as fencing to enhance the open character; and to maintain the character of the landscape and its component parts within a sustainable upland management system, integrating land uses such as livestock farming, water supply and grouse shooting with carbon sequestration, recreation and amenity.

5.3.4 Reservoir Valleys with Woodland

Steep sided valleys dominated by large reservoirs. Some of the steep valley slopes have been planted with interlocking blocks of coniferous and mixed plantation woodland while others support acid grassland and clough woodlands. Views along the valleys are framed by woodland and the slopes rising to moorland.

Key Characteristics:

- Interlocking coniferous and mixed plantation woodland with some limited semi-natural woodland;
- Large reservoirs providing water supplies to adjoining urban areas;
- Steep valley slopes, dissected by cloughs;

- Land was largely cleared of settlement during reservoir construction leaving occasional isolated gritstone farmsteads; and
- Pastoral fields bounded by gritstone walls with many relict boundaries.

Table 70: Reservoir Valleys with Woodland - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Reservoir Valleys with Woodland | <p>Large reservoirs providing water supplies to adjoining urban areas;</p> <p>Large portions of the LCT contains Ancient Woodland;</p> <p>Large portions of the LCT is contained within flood zones 2 + 3; and</p> <p>Small portions of the LCT contained within CRoW access land.</p> |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 71: Reservoir Valleys with Woodland – Landscape character attributes

| Reservoir Valleys with Woodland | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Utilities and recreation |
| Main Habitat Type | Reservoirs |
| Other Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Woodland Character | Widespread large plantations |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Pine, spruce & larch with occasional broadleaved woodland |
| Hedgerow Trees | Occasional hedgerows |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled (very occasional farm) |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 72: Reservoir Valleys with Woodland – Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Although there is some low intensity pastoral farming, water supply with forestry and recreation around the reservoirs are the dominant land uses in this landscape.</p> <p>Some of the steep valley slopes have been planted with interlocking blocks of coniferous and mixed plantation woodland while others support acid grassland and clough woodlands.</p> <p>Management strategy is to enhance areas of semi-natural grassland.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>This landscape is extensively wooded, mostly recent conifer plantations of pine, spruce and larch planted on land that was previously open heath, or grassland. Some of the plantations were planted on the site of ancient woodlands that were cleared of native trees. Patches of ancient semi-natural woodland are now linked by the areas of plantation woodland to create a heavily wooded landscape.</p> <p>In Longdendale, woodland is patchier and there are fewer coniferous plantations.</p> <p>Some of the steep valley slopes have been planted with interlocking blocks of coniferous and mixed plantation woodland while others support acid grassland and clough woodlands</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance woodland, in particular plantation woodland / manage and enhance landscape around reservoirs.</p> <p>Woodland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>There is bracken associated with acid grassland on the sloping land in these landscapes.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>There are wetland habitats that are formed due to the valley slopes with narrow valley bottoms, the wetland habitats are associated with the reservoirs and provide water supply to adjoining urban areas.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance wetland landscapes / create and link patches of wetland farmland habitats.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | This is not a significantly settled landscape with just occasional isolated gritstone farmsteads. These are more prevalent in the Longdendale Valley than the Upper Derwent Valley which has a more unsettled character. However, this landscape was formerly more densely settled but was deliberately de-populated in order to establish the reservoirs. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | There are no active quarries within the Dark Peak but there are remains of old quarries, which form an important part of the character of the area. They are a valued cultural heritage, biodiversity, educational and, particularly, recreational resource, with many old quarries being used for rock climbing and bouldering. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>The Upper Derwent Valley was an important location for charcoal production with burning taking place in many locations on the lower slopes. In the 18th century much of this was produced on an industrial scale and used for iron smelting around Sheffield.</p> <p>Quarrying was carried out at several sites in Longdendale, particularly towards the west.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>The reservoirs which now occupy the earlier mill sites in Longdendale were built in the 1840s to supply water to Manchester. In the Upper Derwent Valley the Howden and Derwent reservoirs, constructed in the early 1900s, were built to supply water to nearby settlements in the East Midlands. The construction of the later Ladybower Dam led to the flooding of Derwent and Ashopton villages, which were small agricultural settlements.</p> <p>Reservoirs are the primary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

Additional Comments:

This landscape has been heavily influenced by human activity with reservoirs, transport routes and large plantation woodlands. The priorities for this landscape include protecting and enhancing the connectivity between semi-natural woodland, replacing coniferous woodland with native, broadleaved species where appropriate; and enhancing recreation and educational opportunities, climate mitigation and the existing, historical enclosure patterns.

5.3.5 Upper Valley Pastures

A pastoral landscape with a low lying, undulating topography, rising more steeply in places towards nearby hills. Settlement is restricted to dispersed gritstone farmsteads set within a well defined pattern of a small to medium sized fields, mostly bounded by hedgerows, but with some walls. Views are enclosed by valley sides and filtered through scattered hedgerow and streamline trees.

Key Characteristics:

- A low lying gently undulating topography, rising towards adjacent higher ground;
- Network of streams and localised damp hollows;
- Pastoral farmland enclosed by hedgerows;
- Small to medium sized fields;
- Dense streamline and scattered hedgerow trees;
- Narrow, winding lanes, sunken on sloped; and
- Dispersed settlement with isolated farmsteads and small clusters of farms and dwellings.

Table 73: Upper Valley Pastures - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Upper Valley Pastures | <p>Network of streams and localised damp hollows;</p> <p>Portions of the LCT is contained within flood zones 2 + 3 localised along stream network; and</p> <p>Small portions of the LCT contained within CRoW access land.</p> |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 74: Upper Valley Pastures - Landscape character attributes

| Upper Valley Pastures | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Alder with birch & willow along watercourses |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows (occasional wall) |
| Settlement Character | Hamlets & scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone with stone slate roofs |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 75: Upper Valley Pastures - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This is a pastoral landscape used mainly for sheep and cattle rearing which has been a traditional land use since at least medieval times.</p> <p>For the most part this is a moderately intensively farmed pastoral landscape with some ecologically interesting grasslands, particularly in the Edale valley. Biodiversity value is found mainly in surviving unimproved pastures and hay meadows, which can provide a range of flora.</p> <p>Farmland is a primary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Unimproved Pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands / semi-natural grassland and wetland landscapes.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Despite the lack of larger woodlands, tree cover is generally well represented throughout this landscape due to the scattered hedgerow and watercourse trees. Tree cover is densest adjacent to watercourses and through cloughs.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>There may be opportunities within the flatter pastures of the Upper Valley Pastures to create flood meadows, helping to reduce flood risks downstream.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance wetland landscapes / create and link patches of wetland farmland habitats.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Settlement is of dispersed gritstone farmsteads.</p> <p>Much of this dispersed pattern originates from the medieval period if not before. In the Edale Valley there are distinctive small clusters of the oldest properties.</p> <p>Other more scattered but post-medieval farmsteads are also common.</p> <p>There is a Victorian nucleated settlement in the centre of the valley which grew up in association with the creation of the railway station and Edale Mill.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage the sparse and historical patterns of development.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>There are no active quarries within the Dark Peak but there are remains of old quarries, which form an important part of the character of the area. They are a valued cultural heritage, biodiversity, educational and, particularly, recreational resource, with many old quarries being used for rock climbing and bouldering.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Rivers Nae, Ashop and Alport as well as Grinds Brook dissect this LCT, although are not mentioned specifically within the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan for any management strategy. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

Additional Comments:

This is a lower lying pastoral landscape with dispersed gritstone farmsteads and cottages as well as a small nucleated settlement. Priorities for this landscape are to protect this historical settlement and enclosure pattern and the views into and out of settlements, whilst enhancing and increasing the extent of habitats within a sustainable farming system.

6.0 NCA 52: White Peak

6.1 Key Characteristics

- Elevated, gently undulating limestone plateau with occasional knolls and crags, dissected by steeply cut dales and gorges with rock outcrops, screes and caves;
- Clear rivers, streams and springs in some dales; others are dry or run water only in winter;
- Steep dale sides with a mosaic of flower-rich limestone grassland, ash woodland and wildlife-rich scrub;
- Improved grassland for dairy and livestock farming dominates the plateau, punctuated by occasional dew ponds, narrow shelterbelts of broadleaved trees and small patches of rough grassland, meadow and heath;
- Grassland enclosed by limestone walls, with small narrow strip fields often of medieval origin around villages, and larger rectangular fields away from the villages;
- Nucleated villages and small towns connected by crest and valley roads;
- A mix of limestone and gritstone used as building materials and stone and Welsh slate for roofs. Widespread features of special archaeological and historical interest including Neolithic and bronze-age ritual monuments; and
- Many visible reminders of early industry, including historic limestone and lead workings, lime kilns and dramatic water mills from the 18th-century textile industry.

6.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 52: White Peak within DCC

6.2.1 Limestone Dales

- Narrow, deeply incised river valleys with steep slopes and extensive amounts of exposed rock. There are blocks of ancient woodland, areas of scrub and rough grassland grazed by sheep.
- Key Characteristics:
- Very steeply sloping valley sides;
- Frequent bare rock outcrops and scree slopes;
- Very shallow loamy soils over Carboniferous Limestones;
- Rough grazing by sheep in enclosures bounded by dry-stone walls;
- Blocks of ancient woodland; and
- Areas of scrub dominated by hawthorn

Table 76: Limestone Dales - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Limestone Dales | Very steeply sloping valley sides; Frequent bare rock outcrops and scree slopes; Broad tracts of Ancient Woodland located within LCT; and LCT contains 3 Registered Parks and Gardens and Matlock Parks Country Park. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 77: Limestone Dales - Landscape character attributes

| Limestone Dales | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Calcareous grassland |
| Other Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Woodland Character | Widespread large semi-natural woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Widespread large woodland |
| Woodland Type | Ash-elm with field maple and lime |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Unenclosed (occasional wall) |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | Railways |

Table 78: Limestone Dales - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>As the slopes are often too steep for improved pasture or afforestation, the land is used mainly for rough grazing by sheep. This semi-natural grassland is of good grazing value.</p> <p>Calcareous grassland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland / Create areas of limestone grassland and heath.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites by natural regeneration or use of locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value; and</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create widespread large woodlands.</p> <p>Woodland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Manage and enhance woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT however management strategy is to create areas of limestone grassland and heath. |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>This is due to the nature of the steep valley slopes within this LCT however, should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT.</p> <p>The low grazing pressure on the slopes within this LCT distinguishes them from other limestone landscapes and maintains the floristic diversity of the grasslands.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history.</p> <p>The river channel is an important ecological corridor and often retains its natural bank profiles with some occasional, marginal, aquatic vegetation and riparian trees.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

6.2.2 Limestone Slopes

A landscape of small, nucleated limestone villages and dispersed farmsteads nestling within moderate to steeply sloping limestone slopes. Distinctive dry-stone walls enclose former open fields and semi-regular fields with a pastoral land-use.

Key Characteristics:

- Steep slopes;
- Localised bare rock outcrops on steeper slopes;
- Fine, silty brown soils over silty, Aeolian drift over Carboniferous Limestone;
- Stock rearing on permanent pasture;
- Small semi-regular and strip fields enclosed by dry-stone walls;
- Villages with limestone and slate roofed farmsteads and cottages;
- Small, isolated field barns; and
- Small pits and hummocks in areas of historic lead mining.

Table 79: Limestone Slopes - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Limestone Slopes | <p>Steep slopes;</p> <p>Localised bare rock outcrops on steeper slopes; and</p> <p>Small pits and hummocks in areas of historic lead mining.</p> |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 80: Limestone Slopes - Landscape character attributes

| Limestone Slopes | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Calcareous grassland |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations and semi-natural woodland |
| Woodland Vision | Densely scattered small-medium plantations |
| Woodland Type | Ash-elm with field maple and lime |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Villages and scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Limestone with stone or Welsh slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Lead mining, field barns |

Table 81: Limestone Slopes - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture and calcareous grassland are the dominant and secondary habitat types for this LCT.</p> <p>Pasture, and particularly dairying, is the dominant land- use with much of the land being farmed in a low intensity system. The steepness of the slopes, allied to the thin soils and rocky outcrops, seriously restrict opportunities for providing improved pasture.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Tree cover is apparent throughout this landscape with scattered boundary trees, small woodland blocks and extensive patches of scrub colonising abandoned pasture. Most of the woodland is associated with the steeper, less cultivable slopes where soils are thinnest and stony.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Small scale woodland planting;</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value;</p> <p>Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland;</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads; and</p> <p>Ensure new woodland does not conflict with features (e.g. ridge and furrow) that help to define landscape character.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create areas of densely scattered small-medium plantations.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Where pasture has been abandoned, or on the steepest more sheltered slopes, scrub is beginning to colonise. This sometimes occurs with localised patches of gorse and bracken. Other features of interest include exposed rock and scree with their associated flora and fauna.</p> <p>Moorland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | The landscape is well settled with villages and scattered farmsteads. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT.</p> <p>Features of interest include exposed rock and scree with their associated flora and fauna. There are also habitats of particular interest in areas of former lead mining.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| | | | |
|------------------|---|----|--|
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to |
|------------------|---|----|--|

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

6.2.3 Plateau Pastures

A gently rolling upland, limestone plateau punctuated by steep sided dales, scattered villages and isolated farmsteads within a pastoral setting.

Key Characteristics:

- A gently rolling upland plateau;
- Limestone outcrops on hill summits and steeper slopes;
- Fine, silty brown soils over Carboniferous Limestone;
- Stock rearing on improved pasture;
- Small shelter blocks of plantation woodland and tree groups around villages and farmsteads
Medium to large regular fields enclosed by dry-stone walls with narrow strip fields around settlements;
- Straight roads with uniform verges;
- Nucleated limestone villages and isolated limestone farmsteads with slate roofs;
- Small isolated field barns;
- Small pits and hummocks in areas of historic lead mining; and
- Open landscape with expansive views.

Table 82: Plateau Pastures - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Plateau Pastures | <p>Limestone outcrops on hill summits and steeper slopes; and</p> <p>Small pits and hummocks in areas of historic lead mining.</p> |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 83: Plateau Pastures - Landscape character attributes

| Plateau Pastures | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Calcareous grassland |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Type | Sycamore with ash, elm and beech |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | Localised arounds settlement |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Villages and sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Limestone with stone or Welsh slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | Strip fields, lead mining, field barns |

Table 84: Plateau Pastures - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Unimproved pasture and calcareous grassland are the dominant and secondary habitat types for this LCT.</p> <p>Pasture, and particularly dairying, is the dominant land- use in this landscape. Most of the fields have been ploughed and reseeded to improve the pasture. Some unimproved grassland is still found where the ground is unsuitable for cultivation such as on the more exposed crests and steeper slopes where soils are thin and often grazed by sheep.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads; and</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the plantations.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create areas of thinly scattered small plantations.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Cropland | c | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | A landscape containing nucleated villages like Monyash, Chelmorton and Taddington. The limestone village is a key characteristic. Between villages there are sparsely scattered farmsteads, established at the time of parliamentary enclosure. The unifying influence of the limestone as a locally distinctive building material, together with strong pastoral traditions and lack of modern development, ensures that the landscape retains its rural character. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

6.2.4 Upland Limestone Pastures

An undulating highland landscape of rough grazing and stock rearing, with prominent limestone outcrops and open, expansive views.

Key Characteristics:

- Undulating highland plateau with steep slopes;
- Very shallow loamy soils over Carboniferous Limestone;
- Frequent bare rock outcrops and scree slopes;

- Extensive stock rearing and rough grazing;
- Occasional plantation block but essentially a treeless landscape;
- Large regular fields bounded by dry-stone walls; and
- Mainly unsettled with occasional farmstead built in stone with slate roof.

Table 85: Upland Limestone Pastures - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|---------------------------|--|
| Upland Limestone Pastures | Frequent bare rock outcrops and scree slopes; Extensive stock rearing and rough grazing; and Occasional plantation block but essentially a treeless landscape. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 86: Upland Limestone Pastures - Landscape character attributes

| Upland Limestone Pastures | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Calcareous grassland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | Treeless |
| Watercourse Trees | Treeless |
| Amenity Trees | Treeless |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled (very occasional farm) |
| Traditional Materials | Limestone with stone slate roof |
| Cultural Interests | N/A |

Table 87: Upland Limestone Pastures - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Calcareous grassland and unimproved pasture are the dominant and secondary habitat types for this LCT.</p> <p>The ecological value of this landscape lies in the extensive area of unimproved grassland.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Where opportunities arise, the removal of coniferous plantation woodland should be encouraged as the existing character is open and unwooded as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> <p>Woodland character is predominantly an open/unwooded/treeless landscape.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to remain open/unwooded. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | Largely unsettled landscape with the occasional isolated farmstead. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. The underlying limestone strongly influences this upland landscape, the form of which is moderately undulating with some steep slopes. Exposed rock is a common feature, giving the landscape a distinctly rugged appearance. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

6.3 Landscape Character Types within NCA 52: White Peak within Peak District National Park

6.3.1 Limestone Dales

A steeply sloping dale landscape with limestone outcrops and extensive tracts of woodland and scrub intermixed with limestone grassland. In some smaller dales this is an intimate, secluded landscape where views are tightly controlled by landform and tree cover, in others the dales are wild and open.

Key Characteristics:

- Steep sided Limestone Dales;
- Craggy outcrops, cliffs and scree slopes;
- Extensive patches of limestone grassland;
- Interlocking blocks of ancient semi-natural woodland, secondary woodland and scrub;
- Largely unsettled, apart from occasional small mill settlements; and
- Historic mineral working (quarrying, lead mining).

Table 88: Limestone Dales - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Limestone Dales | Steep sided Limestone Dales; Craggy outcrops, cliffs and scree slopes; Large portions of the LCT contained within CRoW access land; Large portions of the LCT contained within Ancient woodland; and Portions of the LCT contained within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3 associated with the river networks. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 89: Limestone Dales - Landscape character attributes

| Limestone Dales | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved grassland |

| Limestone Dales | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Other Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Woodland Character | Extensive large semi-natural woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Ash & hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Unenclosed (occasional wall) |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 90: Limestone Dales - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>LCT associated with extensive patches of limestone grassland.</p> <p>As the slopes in the dales are too steep for agricultural improvement, this landscape still retains extensive areas of unimproved grassland and semi-natural</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>woodland, with the former used mainly for rough grazing by sheep.</p> <p>Unimproved grassland is a primary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland / Create areas of limestone grassland and heath.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Tree cover is a key feature of the dales, although in places its extent is limited. Some dalesides, like those in the Wye and Manifold valleys, are extensively wooded with large tracts of semi-natural woodland dominated by ash and hazel. Deciduous plantations also occur in some dales. In other dales, woodland cover is more sporadic and tends to be associated with scrub dominated by hawthorn. Overall the woodland cover, coupled with the steep valley sides, can create a strong sense of visual containment.</p> <p>Woodland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Manage and enhance woodlands / Manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Where grazing is restricted, the grasslands are commonly mixed with other semi-natural habitats such as deciduous woodland and scrub.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland / Create areas of limestone grassland and heath.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Human habitation is not a feature of this landscape owing to the topographical inaccessibility of the Limestone Dales.</p> <p>Some manmade activities do impact on this character including the large water powered textile mills at Cressbrook and Litton Mills in the Wye valley, and smaller mills such as the corn mill at Wetton Mill, and the lead processing and other mills in the Via Gellia.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>Quarries in the White Peak serve local and national demand for limestone used by the construction, cement and chemical industries.</p> <p>In addition, there is a national demand for vein minerals, e.g. fluorspar, used by the chemical industry. There are many landscape impacts associated with these sites, including visual intrusion, adverse effects on the historic landscapes and cultural heritage features, wildlife habitats, associated infrastructure and transportation of products, and tranquillity. There is also pressure to extend the size of the quarries and prolong quarrying beyond the dates of current planning permissions. In places quarrying has gone below the water table, resulting in an entirely new landscape.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | In parts of the Wye Valley, Lathkill Dale and the Via Gellia the remains of past lead mining and quarrying are important features. Management strategy is to develop appropriate landscapes from mineral workings. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history. The rivers Wye, Dove, Manifold, Hamps, Lathkill and Derwent flow through well developed dale landscapes. There are also a number of associated smaller, outlying dry valley dales. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

Additional Comments:

This is an intimate, secluded and largely semi-natural landscape, where views are often tightly controlled by landform and tree cover. The priority in this landscape is to protect and manage the mosaic of internationally important grassland, scrub, woodland, rock and river habitats, and the cultural heritage features, while seeking opportunities to enhance diversity and opportunities for people to enjoy the landscape.

6.3.2 Limestone Hills and Slopes

A high pastoral landscape with a varied undulating topography and some steep slopes. This is a remote, sparsely populated landscape with a regular pattern of mostly medium to large walled fields, interspersed in places with extensive patches of rough ground and elsewhere by smaller regular fields. There are wide open views to distant skylines, especially around the edges of the White Peak.

Key Characteristics:

- High, undulating, in places steeply sloping topography;
- Frequent rock outcrops on steeper ground;
- Rich wildlife habitats including large patches of limestone grassland and limestone heath on the highest ground;
- A regular pattern of medium to large walled fields;
- Occasional groups and belts of trees;

- Prehistoric monuments, often on hilltops;
- Relict lead mining remains; and
- Wide open views to distant skylines.

Table 91: Limestone Hills and Slopes - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------|--|
| Limestone Hills and Slopes | Frequent rock outcrops on steeper ground; Rich wildlife habitats including large patches of limestone grassland and limestone heath on the highest ground; Prehistoric monuments, often on hilltops; Wide open views to distant skylines; and Portions of the LCT contained within CRoW Access Land. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 92: Limestone Hills and Slopes - Landscape character attributes

| Limestone Hills and Slopes | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pastoral |
| Main Habitat Type | Calcareous & acid grassland |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Treeless |
| Hedgerow Trees | Treeless |
| Watercourse Trees | Treeless |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | None |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled (very occasional farm) |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 93: Limestone Hills and Slopes - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>For the most part this is a pastoral landscape with improved grassland and localised hay meadows but in places, notably on the steeper slopes and higher summits, large tracts of rough grazing land have survived.</p> <p>Calcareous & acid grassland are the primary habitat types within this LCT.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland / Create areas of limestone grassland and heath.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>This is a fairly exposed, and in places treeless landscape with open views. In some more sheltered areas with deeper soils, small plantations and tree groups associated with farmsteads can be found.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Create new native broadleaved woodland.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Of special importance are the relatively rare remaining areas of limestone heath, largely consisting of heather, with bilberry and western gorse, associated with poorer soils developed on acidic wind blown silt. On hilltops and steep slopes a mosaic of semi-natural vegetation can be found including patches of both calcareous and acid grassland. Where grazing no longer takes place, localised patches of gorse, bracken and scrub are found.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland / Create areas of limestone grassland and heath.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>This is a sparsely settled landscape with only occasional, large, isolated stone farmsteads, many of which were first established in the 18th or 19th centuries. The higher parts of the limestone plateau is also characterised by a scattering of older medieval granges, although today's buildings are later rebuilds, dating from the 17th century onwards. There is a large number of surviving</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | prehistoric monuments, often prominently sited on the highest hilltops. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>Quarries in the White Peak serve local and national demand for limestone used by the construction, cement and chemical industries.</p> <p>In addition, there is a national demand for vein minerals, e.g. fluorspar, used by the chemical industry. There are many landscape impacts associated with these sites, including visual intrusion, adverse effects on the historic landscapes and cultural heritage features, wildlife habitats, associated infrastructure and transportation of products, and tranquillity. There is also pressure to extend the size of the quarries and prolong quarrying beyond the dates of current planning permissions. In places quarrying has gone below the water table, resulting in an entirely new landscape.</p> <p>A significant amount of lead mining has taken place, particularly in the northern and eastern areas, often following linear rakes; in places historic features are still extensive. This landscape has also been heavily influenced in places by quarrying, with large active quarries near Buxton and above Hope. Grin Hill near Buxton is exceptional for its large number of early industrial limekilns and shallow quarries which date from the 17th century to the early 19th century.</p> <p>Management strategy is to develop appropriate landscapes from mineral workings.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

Additional Comments:

This is a higher, more remote landscape with frequent, and in places extensive, patches of rough ground. The priority is to protect and restore the diversity of the more remote landscapes and, where possible, to create a mosaic of extensive areas of unenclosed limestone grassland, heath, scrub and woodland.

6.3.3 Limestone Plateau Pastures

An upland pastoral landscape with a regular pattern of straight roads and small to medium sized rectangular fields bounded by limestone walls. Tree cover is mostly limited to occasional tree groups, or small shelter belts, allowing wide views to the surrounding higher ground.

Key Characteristics:

- A rolling upland plateau;
- Pastoral farmland enclosed by limestone walls;
- A regular pattern of small to medium sized rectangular fields;
- Localised field dewponds and farm limekilns;
- Discrete tree groups and belts of trees;
- Isolated stone farmsteads and field barns;
- Medieval granges surrounded by older fields;
- Relict lead mining and quarrying remains;
- Prehistoric monuments, often on hilltops; and
- Open views to surrounding higher ground.

Table 94: Limestone Plateau Pastures - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------|---|
| Limestone Plateau Pastures | Relict lead mining and quarrying remains; and Open views to surrounding higher ground. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 95: Limestone Plateau Pastures - Landscape character attributes

| Limestone Plateau Pastures | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |

| Limestone Plateau Pastures | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Woodland Character | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | Treeless |
| Watercourse Trees | Treeless |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled (very occasional farm) |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 96: Limestone Plateau Pastures - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>In relation to the surrounding upland landscapes in the Peak District, this is an intensively farmed agricultural landscape where stock rearing and dairying are the primary land uses. Two types of historical feature that are relatively common are dewponds and field kilns.</p> <p>Pasture land is a primary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Unimproved grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland / Create areas of limestone grassland and heath.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>For the most part the Limestone Plateau Pastures have a fairly open character where tree cover is largely restricted to discrete groups of trees, often around farmsteads. In places, larger coverts and occasional belts of sycamore, beech or ash trees, often planted on abandoned lead rakes, provide a stronger sense of enclosure. These linear or rectangular shelter belts are a distinctive feature of the White Peak landscape.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Manage traditional plantation woodlands / Manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees / Create new native broadleaved woodland.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Although not a dominant land cover within this LCT the management actions still state that the aims should be to create areas of limestone grassland and heath, albeit</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | only a consideration in some locations where appropriate. |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | This is a landscape of isolated stone farmsteads and scattered stone field barns, mostly dating from the period of Parliamentary Enclosure in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. There are also medieval granges, although today's buildings are mostly later rebuilds from the 17th century onwards. There is also a scattering of prehistoric monuments including the henges at Arbor Low and the Bull Ring, Neolithic chambered tombs and round barrows on hilltops. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | Quarries in the White Peak serve local and national demand for limestone used by the construction, cement and chemical industries. In addition, there is a national demand for vein minerals, e.g. fluorspar, used by the chemical industry. There are many landscape impacts associated with these sites, including visual intrusion, adverse effects on the historic landscapes and cultural heritage features, wildlife habitats, associated infrastructure and transportation of products, and tranquillity. There is also pressure to extend the size of the quarries and prolong quarrying beyond the dates of current planning permissions. In places quarrying has gone below the water table, resulting in an entirely new landscape. Large amounts of lead mining have taken place in the past, particularly in the northern and eastern parts of the plateau, and historic features are still extensive in places. The landscapes around Dove Holes and Peak Forest are exceptional for the large number of early industrial |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | limekilns and shallow quarries, dating from the 17th to the early 19th centuries. Today, only small relics of unimproved grassland survive, in areas where the ground is unsuitable for cultivation, such as along lead rakes and on the more exposed crests close to rock outcrops, where the soils are particularly thin. Management strategy is to manage historic mineral landscapes / Develop appropriate landscapes from mineral workings. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

Additional Comments:

This is a more recent, planned agricultural landscape with a regular pattern of historic, small to medium sized, rectangular fields, usually resulting from the enclosure of Medieval wastes and commons, and discrete groups/blocks of trees. The priority should be to protect the historic pattern of enclosure and the wooded character, whilst restoring the biodiversity of the pastoral farmland and expanding boundary trees where appropriate, within a sustainable farming system.

6.3.4. Limestone Village Farmlands

A small-scale settled agricultural landscape characterised by limestone villages, set within a repeating pattern of narrow strip fields bounded by drystone walls.

Key Characteristics:

- A gently undulating plateau;
- Pastoral farmland enclosed by drystone walls made from limestone;
- A repeated pattern of narrow strip fields originating from medieval open fields;
- Scattered boundary trees and tree groups around buildings;
- Discrete limestone villages and clusters of stone dwellings;
- Relict mine shafts and associated lead mining remains; and
- Localised field dewponds.

Table 97: Limestone Village Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Limestone Village Farmlands | A repeated pattern of narrow strip fields originating from medieval open fields. |

Table 98: Limestone Village Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Limestone Village Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pastoral |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | - |
| Woodland Character | Open/unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | None |
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Dry stone walls |
| Settlement Character | Villages |
| Traditional Materials | Local Carboniferous limestone, stone tile, or Welsh slate roofs |
| Cultural Interests | - |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 99: Limestone Village Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Although it has a largely pastoral character today, dominated by stock rearing and dairying, historically this landscape had once a more mixed farming character. Dewponds which provided a source of water are a relatively common historical feature.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland / Create areas of limestone grassland and heath.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Tree cover is largely restricted to small groups of trees and a scattering of trees along boundaries around village margins, often creating quite intimate rural scenes. Elsewhere the landscape is often more open, but even here more distant views are typically framed by surrounding hills, or rising ground.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance surviving areas of natural landscapes / Manage traditional plantation woodlands / Manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees / Create new native broadleaved woodland.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Although not a dominant land cover within this LCT the management actions still state that the aims should be to create areas of limestone grassland and heath, albeit only a consideration in some locations where appropriate.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | The present settlement pattern is long established within this landscape, with origins before the Norman Conquest, and tends to be strongly nucleated, with most farmsteads and dwellings concentrated into a central village within each parish, reflecting historic townships. Today's buildings, with the exception of some medieval churches, date mostly from the 17th century onwards. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>Quarries in the White Peak serve local and national demand for limestone used by the construction, cement and chemical industries.</p> <p>In addition, there is a national demand for vein minerals,</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | e.g. fluorspar, used by the chemical industry. There are many landscape impacts associated with these sites, |
|--|--|--|--|

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>including visual intrusion, adverse effects on the historic landscapes and cultural heritage features, wildlife habitats, associated infrastructure and transportation of products, and tranquility. There is also pressure to extend the size of the quarries and prolong quarrying beyond the dates of current planning permissions. In places quarrying has gone below the water table, resulting in an entirely new landscape.</p> <p>A significant amount of lead mining has taken place, particularly in the areas in the northern and eastern parts of the plateau, and in places historic features are still extensive.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage historic mineral landscapes / Develop appropriate landscapes from mineral workings.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

Additional Comments:

This is a historic landscape and the most settled agricultural landscape of the White Peak, characterised by repeating patterns of narrow strip fields usually resulting from the enclosure of Medieval open fields. These field systems surround associated limestone villages with traditional stone-built buildings. The priority should be to protect the historic pattern of enclosure, the nucleated settlement pattern and the integrity and setting of traditional buildings, whilst restoring the biodiversity of the pastoral farmland within a sustainable farming system.

7.0 NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands

7.1 Key Characteristics

- The area, which is dissected by the river systems of the Trent, the Blithe and the Dove, forms a rolling glacial till plateau that slopes south-eastwards from the southern edge of the Peak District to the valley of the River Trent. There is a distinctive scarp to the south of the Dove, whose broad flood plain divides the Staffordshire and Derbyshire elements;
- The south is dominated by heavy, seasonally waterlogged soils derived from glacial till. In the north, red and pink soils underlain by Mercia Mudstones and Sherwood Sandstone are more amenable to cultivation;
- A predominantly pastoral landscape of rolling countryside that is still largely rural and relatively tranquil, featuring distinctive field boundary patterns and characteristic hedgerows with hedgerow trees. Grassland for livestock is the dominant land use although dairy and cereal farming are also important. The majority of the farms are small- to medium-sized dairying and livestock holdings. Arable cultivation occurs on the better land north and south of the Dove and in the river flood plains;
- An overall wooded character derived from scattered ancient and semi-natural woods, parkland and boundary trees. Some large woodland blocks are prominent in Needwood Forest; however, much consists of smaller, fragmented remnants. There is new woodland creation within The National Forest;
- Predominantly hedgerow bounded, the field pattern varies from small- to medium-sized fields to the north of the Dove; mostly large-scale and rectilinear on the broad river flood plains; strongly rectilinear in Needwood Forest; and smaller and more irregular to the west;
- A wide range of habitats associated predominantly with pasture, varying from damp lowland grassland and marshland to drier neutral grassland. There are good surviving examples of water meadows featured along the three main river valleys. Areas of open water such as Blithfield Reservoir and the major rivers are important for birds. Chartley Moss (a basin mire) and Pasturefields (an inland salt marsh) are internationally important examples of rare habitats;
- Wood pasture and designed parklands, often with veteran trees, are found throughout the area. They are generally associated with landscape parks and country houses, such as Sandon, Sudbury and Kedleston. Tutbury Castle and the internationally important Derwent Valley Mills, together with a variety of features such as moated sites and medieval settlements and the Trent and Mersey Canal, add to the historical richness of this landscape. Extensive earthworks relating to ridge and furrow and water meadow systems survive, particularly around the Dove;
- A dispersed historical settlement pattern, particularly in the higher pastoral farmlands that fringe the Peak District to the north, with the older villages generally sited along the valleys or valley sides, and more recent crossroad settlements on the higher ground. Buildings are usually of red brick and clay tile roofs, and local sandstone. Timber frame buildings are rare with notable examples at Somersal Hall and the village of Abbots Bromley. There are market towns at Ashbourne, Stone, Tutbury and Uttoxeter, and the more significant urban areas of Burton-upon-Trent and the City of Derby extend into the eastern boundary of the NCA; and

- The Trent and Dove valleys are major transport corridors. The Trent Valley includes the Trent and Mersey Canal, the West Coast Main Line railway and the A51 road, while the Dove Valley features the Derby to Stoke railway line and the A50 road. The A52 links Derby and Ashbourne.

7.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands within DCC

7.2.1 Estate Farmlands

A broad, gently rolling lowland mixed farming landscape with occasional red brick villages, scattered estate farmsteads and country houses. Tree cover is well represented with small estate woodlands, dense watercourse

Key Characteristics:

- Gently rolling lowland dissected by minor river valleys;
- Seasonally waterlogged fine loamy soils over Permo-Triassic Mudstones, Siltstone and Sandstone;
- Mixed farming with intensive arable cropping and improved permanent pasture;
- Prominent estate woodlands with broadleaf and coniferous species;
- Scattered oak and ash trees along hedgerow;
- Dense lines of trees along streams;
- Small to medium size semi-regular and regular field enclosed by hedgerows;
- Small villages constructed of red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tiled roofs; and
- Scattered red brick estate farmsteads and the occasional country house.

Table 100: Estate Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Estate Farmlands | Mixed farming with intensive arable cropping and improved permanent pasture; Dense lines of trees along streams; Occasional country house; and Keddleston Hall Registered park and garden. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 101: Estate Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Estate Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------|--|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Densely scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly & hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Hamlets & scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Keddleston Hall & Park |

Table 102: Estate Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision.</p> <p>land-use within this landscape type is mixed farming, with intensive arable cropping and improved permanent pasture. Pasture is most prevalent on the slightly heavier soils over mudstone and on the locally steeper slopes.</p> <p>Ecologically, this landscape type is poor as a result of intensive farming practices. The arable crops and improved permanent pastures and leys are of little ecological value.</p> <p>Remnant unimproved grassland is now confined to the road margins and the occasional field margin in pastoral areas.</p> <p>Farmland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT. |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision; and</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage the area's diverse range of woodlands, veteran trees, wood pasture and parklands to enhance landscape character and safeguard their biodiversity value, while seeking opportunities to enhance access. Plan, with emphasis on The National Forest, for new opportunities to plant woods and new areas of wood pasture to expand existing sites; and create short rotation coppice to enhance timber and biomass provision, increase carbon storage, regulate water flow and quality, and reduce habitat fragmentation.</p> <p>Trees and especially woodlands are well represented in this landscape type and play an important role in emphasising its estate character.</p> <p>The wooded character is reinforced by dense lines of trees along watercourses.</p> <p>In and around the small village's amenity trees are prominent, as are the parkland trees where they occur.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Small-medium scale woodland planting:</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows; and</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity or river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Woodland vision is to retain areas of densely scattered small plantations. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats.</p> <p>Wet pasture and patches of marsh with Juncus are a feature of some of the minor stream valleys. Mercaston Marsh is an important wetland meadow site and is a designated SSSI. It exhibits a range of habitats which would once have been much more widespread in other stream valleys that dissect this landscape.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision.</p> <p>Land-use within this landscape type is mixed farming, with intensive arable cropping and improved permanent pasture. Pasture is most prevalent on the slightly heavier soils over mudstone and on the locally steeper slopes.</p> <p>Ecologically, this landscape type is poor as a result of intensive farming practices. The arable crops and improved permanent pastures and leys are of little ecological value.</p> <p>Remnant unimproved grassland is now confined to the road margins and the occasional field margin in pastoral areas.</p> <p>Farmland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect the historic and cultural features of Needwood and the South Derbyshire Claylands, in particular the traditional settlement patterns of remaining villages, traditional |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>farmsteads and the country estates that provide a strong sense of place.</p> <p>This is a sparsely populated landscape. Villages, like Weston Underwood and Mercaston, tend to be small and nucleated, often being located away from modern through routes.</p> <p>Most of these settlements have grown relatively little, although modern infill development is beginning to modify their original loose knit character.</p> <p>A key feature of this landscape and quintessential to its character is the Kedleston Estate. Kedleston Hall is a Grade 1 listed building and a superb example of a Georgian country house.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | <p>Bracken is occasionally present in road verges being indicative of a heathier habitat.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity or river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

7.2.2 Riverside Meadows

Flat flood plains, containing meandering rivers and streams with dense trees along riverbanks. A pastoral landscape of large, hedged fields with trees scattered along boundaries.

Key Characteristics:

- Flat flood plains containing meandering rivers and streams;
- Seasonally waterlogged soils over alluvium;
- Permanent pasture;
- Localised patches of rushes in damp hollows;

- Scattered trees along boundaries;
- Regular shaped fields bounded by hawthorn hedges;
- Lanes alongside or crossing the flood plain; and
- Active and disused railway lines with secondary woodland along embankments.

Table 103: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Riverside Meadows | Flat flood plains containing meandering rivers and streams; Permanent pasture; and Majority of LCT contained within flood risk areas 2 and 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 104: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Wetland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional small wet woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Alder-crack with hawthorn and elder |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Hawthorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | Railways, ridge & furrow |

Table 105: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision.</p> <p>The remaining unimproved pasture occurs in concentrations along the Dove, north of Doveridge. Pasture with a high-water table and where the soil is permanently wet is important ecologically for its species-rich flora and fauna.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT .</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage the area's diverse range of woodlands, veteran trees, wood pasture and parklands to enhance landscape character and safeguard their biodiversity value, while seeking opportunities to enhance access. Plan, with emphasis on The National Forest, for new opportunities to plant woods and new areas of wood pasture to expand existing sites; and create short rotation coppice to enhance timber and biomass provision, increase carbon storage, regulate water flow and quality, and reduce habitat fragmentation</p> <p>Large portions of the LCT are unwooded, there are dense lines of trees along riverbanks, although some have been removed as part of flood protection works, and there is die-back in other places.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> <p>Encourage the continuing practice of pollarding to maintain the traditional riparian character of the landscape.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to create areas of occasional small wet woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats.</p> <p>The flood plain makes good quality fattening pastures. The wet, fine textured soils and risk of flooding make the land difficult to work for arable cropping, although some arable fields can be found in the lower Dove Valley as a result of recent drainage improvements and flood protection measures.</p> <p>The remaining unimproved pasture occurs in concentrations along the Dove, north of Doveridge. Pasture with a high-water table and where the soil is permanently wet is important ecologically for its species-rich flora and fauna.</p> <p>Wetland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | Former pastures have often been converted to arable following drainage improvements. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect the historic and cultural features of Needwood and the South Derbyshire Claylands, in particular the traditional settlement patterns of remaining villages, traditional farmsteads and the country estates that provide a strong sense of place.</p> <p>There are occasional farmsteads on the higher, better drained areas. Due to their unsuitability for built development, some flood plain areas have been given over to recreational use.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats</p> <p>The Sutton Brook and its tributaries are narrow with unpolluted water making it very valuable as a freshwater habitat. The River Dove is fairly wide and deep with relatively clean water. All these watercourses are important wildlife habitats, as are their banks and margins. Some old oxbow lakes, such as Old Marston SSSI, are diverse habitats of value as part of the river corridor.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

7.2.3 Sandstone Slopes and Heaths

A landscape of moderate to steep sandstone slopes with prominent rounded undulations and hillocks forming the upper slopes. A pastoral landscape, with small woodlands and scattered hedgerow trees.

Key Characteristics:

- Moderate to steep sandstone slopes and valleys with rounded undulations;
- Well-drained sandy soils;
- A pastoral land-use on steeper slopes with mixed farming on gentler gradients;
- Heathy associations with patches of gorse on steeper slopes and bracken along some hedgerow trees and patches of woodland;
- Small to medium sized regular and sub-regular fields with mixed species hedgerows; and
- Sparsely settled landscape with the very occasional red brick and Staffordshire blue clay tile farmsteads and roadside cottages;

Table 106: Sandstone Slopes and Heaths - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Sandstone Slopes and Heaths | Heathy associations with patches of gorse on steeper slopes and bracken along some hedgerow trees and patches of woodland. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 107: Sandstone Slopes and Heaths - Landscape character attributes

| Sandstone Slopes and Heaths | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Acid grassland/heath |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly & hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Sparsely scattered farms & cottages |
| Traditional Materials | Red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Medieval deer parks |

Table 108: Sandstone Slopes and Heaths - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision.</p> <p>The relatively steep slopes and impoverished nature of the soils ensures that pasture predominates. However, where the slopes are moderately steep or gentle, the agriculture is more mixed with some arable cropping.</p> <p>These free-draining sandy soils will naturally support acid grassland and heathy habitats. In areas of unimproved pasture on the steepest slopes, patches of acid grassland persist. Where this grassland has become neglected, gorse is beginning to colonise and there are some sizeable patches of gorse thicket. In other areas of neglected pasture and grassland some localised scrub has developed.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Acid grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision; and</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage the area's diverse range of woodlands, veteran trees, wood pasture and parklands to enhance landscape character and safeguard their biodiversity</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>value, while seeking opportunities to enhance access. Plan, with emphasis on The National Forest, for new opportunities to plant woods and new areas of wood pasture to expand existing sites; and create short rotation coppice to enhance timber and biomass provision, increase carbon storage, regulate water flow and quality, and reduce habitat fragmentation.</p> <p>Tree cover is apparent throughout this landscape type but is rarely visually prominent.</p> <p>There are small woodlands usually associated with the steeper, less cultivable areas. The overall character is one of a well-treed landscape, but the undulating nature of the landform ensures that whilst there are open views across adjacent country, views through the landscape and along the slopes are often blocked or filtered by trees.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species</p> <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value</p> <p>Woodland vision is to retain areas of thinly scattered small plantations.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>These free-draining sandy soils will naturally support acid grassland and heathy habitats. In areas of unimproved pasture on the steepest slopes, patches of acid grassland persist. Where this grassland has become neglected, gorse is beginning to colonise and there are some sizeable patches of gorse thicket. In other areas of neglected pasture and grassland some localised scrub has developed.</p> <p>Heathland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision. Where the slopes are moderately steep or gentle, the agriculture is more mixed with some arable cropping. Water retention is poor and areas under arable production need regular irrigation during the summer months. |
| Urban | u | No | Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect the historic and cultural features of Needwood and the South Derbyshire Claylands, in particular the traditional settlement patterns of remaining villages, traditional farmsteads and the country estates that provide a strong sense of place. Settlement has been sparse in this landscape primarily due to steep, uncultivable slopes, although there are occasional farmsteads and cottages. There are remains of medieval deer parks, notably Mansell Park and Ravensdale Park, associated with a once extensive hunting forest. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

7.2.4 Settled Farmlands

An undulating to gently rolling, dairy farming landscape with hedgerow trees, dense watercourse trees and occasional small woodlands. A well-settled landscape of red brick farmsteads and cottages along winding country lanes.

Key Characteristics:

- Gently undulating to rolling lowland dissected by minor stream valleys with localised steep slopes;
- Seasonally waterlogged soils over Permo-Triassic Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone;
- Dairy farming on permanent pasture with localised arable cropping;
- Small woodland blocks and copses associated with steeper slopes;
- Scattered oak and ash trees along hedgerows;
- Dense lines of trees along streams;
- Small to medium size, semi-regular and strip fields enclosed by hedgerows;
- Extensive ridge and furrow;
- Network of winding lanes often sunken on steeper slopes; and
- Small clusters of red brick and Staffordshire blue clay tile farms and cottages.

Table 109: Settled Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Settled Farmlands | Dairy farming on permanent pasture with localised arable cropping; Extensive ridge and furrow; and Sudbury Hall. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 110: Settled Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Settled Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Neutral grassland |
| Woodland Character | Occasional small woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional small woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly & hazel |

| Settled Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Small villages & scattered farms and cottages |
| Traditional Materials | Red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Ridge & furrow |

Table 111: Settled Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision.</p> <p>The land-use is predominantly dairying and stock rearing on improved permanent pasture and leys.</p> <p>Much of this landscape is intensively farmed either as improved permanent pasture or arable cropping. As a result, much is of little ecological value. However, there are isolated patches of unimproved grassland and hay meadow, associated with small family farms and steeper slopes, which provide local floristic interest.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Neutral grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets,</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision; and</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage the area's diverse range of woodlands, veteran trees, wood pasture and parklands to enhance landscape character and safeguard their biodiversity value, while seeking opportunities to enhance access. Plan, with emphasis on The National Forest, for new opportunities to plant woods and new areas of wood pasture to expand existing sites; and create short rotation coppice to enhance timber and biomass provision, increase carbon storage, regulate water flow and quality, and reduce habitat fragmentation.</p> <p>In general woodland is poorly represented within this LCT. Exceptions to this rule are interlocking woodlands like Eaton Wood and Bradley Wood, that follow the steeper slopes of the Dove and Henmore Valleys, creating a distinct wooded edge. Other exceptions include densely scattered hedgerow and trees along watercourses and localised parkland.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species:</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees;</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/ veteran trees within hedgerows; and</p> <p>Ensure new woodland does not conflict with features (e.g. ridge and furrow) that help to define landscape character.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to retain occasional small woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats.</p> <p>Lowland areas are susceptible to short periods of waterlogging resulting in areas of improved permanent pasture.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision.</p> <p>There is some arable farming where the local topography and soil conditions dictate, particularly around Shirley, Brailsford and Somersal Herbert. Indeed, this is amongst some of the finest agricultural land found in the county being officially classified Grade 2.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect the historic and cultural features of Needwood and the South Derbyshire Claylands, in particular the traditional settlement patterns of remaining villages, traditional farmsteads and the country estates that provide a strong sense of place.</p> <p>This is a well settled but sparsely populated landscape containing small villages, isolated groups of roadside cottages and scattered farmsteads. Villages tend to be small, like Somersal Herbert and Marston Montgomery, and some loose knit, such as Roston and Norbury on the eastern flanks of the Dove.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

7.2.5 Settled Plateau Farmlands

A medium scale pastoral landscape on gently rolling upland plateaux. A sense of elevation with extensive views filtered by scattered hedgerow trees and small woodlands.

Key Characteristics:

- A gently rolling upland plateau extending onto ridge tops;
- Slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged soils over glacial till;
- Pastoral farming with some cropping;
- Marl pits forming small ponds;
- Densely scattered boundary trees and occasional small woodland blocks;
- Small to medium fields surrounded by hedgerows;
- Parkland estates;
- Areas of former common land with clusters of red brick and Staffordshire blue clay tile roofed cottages;
- Scattered red brick and Staffordshire blue clay tile roofed farmsteads and estate farms; and
- Extensive views over lower ground.

Table 112: Settled Plateau Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|---------------------------|---|
| Settled Plateau Farmlands | Pastoral farming with some cropping; and Parkland estates - Ednaston manor. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 113: Settled Plateau Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Settled Plateau Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Neutral grassland |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly & hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse Trees | None |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn & mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Small villages & scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Late Parliamentary enclosures, historic commons |

Table 114: Settled Plateau Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision.</p> <p>This is moderately good mixed farmland although dairying and improved grassland and leys dominate.</p> <p>Much of this landscape type is intensively farmed as permanent pasture or for cereals. The improved grassland and cultivated fields have little ecological interest.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Unimproved pasture is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Neutral grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision; and</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage the area's diverse range of woodlands, veteran trees, wood pasture and parklands to enhance landscape character and safeguard their biodiversity value, while seeking opportunities to enhance access. Plan, with emphasis on The National Forest, for new opportunities to plant woods and new areas of wood pasture to expand existing sites; and create short rotation coppice to enhance timber and biomass provision, increase carbon storage, regulate water flow and quality, and reduce habitat fragmentation.</p> <p>Boundary trees are scattered throughout giving filtered views, often over extensive areas. Occasional small blocks of broadleaved woodland and shelter groups are found.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/ veteran trees within hedgerows; and</p> <p>Ensure new woodland does not conflict with features (e.g. ridge and furrow) that help to define landscape character.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Woodland vision is to retain areas of thinly scattered small plantations. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | There are significant patches of bracken in hedgerows and along road verges. The network of lanes around Bradley is particularly rich in bracken. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats.</p> <p>The many marl pits support valuable base-rich wetland communities. Older pastures, particularly if poorly drained, can develop a distinctive base-rich association. At Hulland Moss, a SSSI, there is an important example of lowland bog and heath with areas of dry oak and wet alder woodland.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the essential character of this mainly pastoral mixed farm landscape with its distinctive field and settlement patterns, hedgerow trees, varied hedgerow types and heritage assets, enhancing and expanding the network of farmland habitats and improving access opportunities while sustaining food provision.</p> <p>Autumn sown crops of wheat, barley and oil-seed rape are found throughout this type, but principally in the Bradley and Shirley Common/Brailsford areas in the east drained, can develop a distinctive base-rich association. At Hulland Moss, a SSSI, there is an important example of lowland bog and heath with areas of dry oak and wet alder woodland.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect the historic and cultural features of Needwood and the South Derbyshire Claylands, in particular the traditional settlement patterns of remaining villages, traditional farmsteads and the country estates that provide a strong sense of place.</p> <p>This is a landscape of widely scattered farmsteads and small settlements. The villages which are found on this landscape type, such as Bradley, Shirley, Yeaueley,</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | Alkmonton and Wyaston, were originally very small nucleated settlements surrounded by open fields. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | The many marl pits support valuable base-rich wetland communities. There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 4: Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

8.0 NCA 69: Trent Valley Washlands

8.1 Key Characteristics

- Distinctly narrow, linear and low-lying landscape largely comprised of the flat flood plains and gravel terraces of the rivers and defined at its edges by higher ground;
- Geology dominated by superficial alluvium and gravel river terrace deposits underpins the contrast in arable and pastoral agricultural use, arable crops predominating on the free-draining soils of the river terraces, with grassland more commonly located along the alluvial river flood plains where soils are subject to frequent flooding or are naturally wet;
- Flood plain pastoral areas where riverside pastures are subdivided by thick, full hedgerows with some trees contrast with arable areas with larger fields divided by low, small hedgerows with few trees;
- Limited tree cover, but local concentrations give the impression of a well timbered landscape in many places. Riparian trees, especially willows, provide an important component. A landscape strongly defined by its rivers and their flood plains with the extensive canal network adding significantly to the watery character and providing major recreational assets for the area;
- Diverse range of wetland habitats supporting notable species such as spined loach and bullhead fish, otter, water vole, white-clawed crayfish, shoveler, bittern, lapwing, snipe and redshank;
- Rich history of human settlement and activity reflected in the archaeology and historic buildings with a particular focus on river crossing points and the gravel terraces, as well as being significant for early Christianity in the Midlands, and later for its canal and brewing heritage;
- Settlement pattern heavily influenced by flood risk, confining villages to the gravel river terraces and to rising ground at the edges of the flood plains. Traditional buildings are characteristically of red brick and clay plain tile with earlier timber frame and grander dwellings and churches typically built from sandstone. Red brick and Welsh slate of 19th- and early 20th-century urban expansion prominent in larger settlements along with modern housing and development;
- A landscape heavily used as transport and communication corridors along the rivers and canals, for major roads and railways, and for power lines; and
- A landscape marked by extensive sand and gravel extraction, power stations and prominent urban-edge industrial and commercial development.

8.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 69: Trent Valley Washlands within DCC

8.2.1 Lowland Village Farmlands

An agricultural landscape set within broad, open river valleys with many urban features.

Key Characteristics:

- Gently rolling, almost flat, lowland with river terraces;

- Low slopes and summits give a sense of elevation over a broad flood plain;
- Mixed farming with arable cropping and improved pasture;
- Thinly scattered hedgerow trees including some willow pollards;
- Scattered, locally dense, watercourse trees;
- Medium to large regular fields with thorn hedgerows;
- Discrete red brick villages with farms and cottages; and
- Large red brick outlying farms.

Table 115: Lowland Village Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|---------------------------|--|
| Lowland Village Farmlands | Mixed farming with arable cropping and improved pasture; Gently rolling, almost flat, lowland with river terraces; and Elvaston Castle with its formal grounds and estate plantations. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 116: Lowland Village Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Lowland Village Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly and hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | None |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages and sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Elvaston Castle and Gardens, ridge and furrow |

Table 117: Lowland Village Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>The traditional land-use is mixed farming with arable crops and improved pasture.</p> <p>Grassland is now restricted to the areas of heaviest soils and smaller field parcels associated with the villages.</p> <p>With a long tradition of mixed farming with intensive cropping, this landscape is ecologically poor.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Carefully plan and manage new development within the NCA to ensure that landscape character and ecosystem services are strengthened, that heritage features, wildlife habitats, woodland and the hedgerow network are enhanced, and that opportunities for creation of multifunctional green infrastructure are realised so that this landscape is resilient to the forces of change that it is experiencing.</p> <p>Tree cover is variable throughout this landscape character type, although it is rarely visually prominent.</p> <p>Woodland is largely absent from this landscape, or occurs as small, sparsely scattered blocks.</p> <p>Sparsely scattered hedgerow trees are locally prominent where the fields are smaller, particularly in association with villages.</p> <p>There are scattered, locally dense trees along watercourses.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species; Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads; Encourage the continuing practice of pollarding to maintain the traditional riparian character of the landscape; and |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Ensure new woodland does not conflict with features (e.g. ridge and furrow) that help to define landscape character.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to retain thinly scattered small plantations.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | Canals and standing open water provide additional habitat opportunities for wetland flora and fauna, such as those found at the Hilton Gravel Pits SSSI. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>The resultant land-use is typically mixed, with cropping on the flatter, more cultivable, soils and improved pasture in damper areas.</p> <p>With a long tradition of mixed farming with intensive cropping, this landscape is ecologically poor.</p> |
| Urban | u | Yes | <p>Settlements are generally nucleated and some are much extended. They are located on the gentle slopes and gravel river terraces, immediately off the flood plain, where drainage is better.</p> <p>A significant feature within this landscape is Elvaston Castle with its formal grounds and estate plantations.</p> <p>Large power stations dominate views across the landscape as do the many pylons carrying the resultant electricity.</p> <p>Settlements like Hatton, Hilton, Breaston and Borrowash have undergone rapid expansion with the construction of new housing estates to serve the city of Derby.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT.</p> <p>Further gravel extraction is providing opportunities for increasing wetland habitats but there are constraints due to issues such as the proximity to East Midlands Airport, flood flows and availability of suitable fill.</p> <p>There have also been major changes to landscape character as a result of large-scale mineral extraction.</p> |

| | | | |
|------------------|---|-----|--|
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the Trent Valley Washlands' river and flood plain |
| | | | landscape to combine its essential provision and regulation of water role with landscape enhancement, nature conservation, climate regulation, farming, recreation and a resource for understanding geodiversity. The Trent and Mersey Canal was once a major industrial transport route. It now caters mainly for recreational water traffic crossing the area from south-east of Egginton eastwards to Swarkestone. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

8.2.2 Riverside Meadows

Broad, flat flood plains, containing meandering rivers and streams with scattered trees along riverbanks. A pastoral landscape of large, hedged fields and trees scattered along boundaries.

Key Characteristics:

- Flat flood plains containing meandering rivers and streams;
- Seasonally waterlogged soils over alluvium;
- Intensive permanent pasture;
- Localised patches of rushes in damp hollows;
- Dense watercourse trees, mainly alder with some localised willow;
- Scattered trees along hedgerows and ditches;
- Regular shaped fields bounded by hawthorn hedges;
- Lanes alongside or crossing the flood plain; and
- Generally uninhabited with sparsely scattered, isolated farmsteads.

Table 118: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Riverside Meadows | Flat flood plains containing meandering rivers and streams; and Important ecological sites include the Old River Dove SSSI at Marston-on-Dove and Lockington Marshes SSSI. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 119: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Wetland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional wet woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Alder-crack willow with ash and downy birch |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | Not applicable (Red brick mills) |
| Cultural Interests | Swarkstone Causeway, Historic mills |

Table 120: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | The land-use is mixed farming with an increasing move towards arable. Today there are still patches of unimproved grassland and rush pasture. |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Carefully plan and manage new development within the NCA to ensure that landscape character and ecosystem services are strengthened, that heritage features, wildlife habitats, woodland and the hedgerow network are enhanced, and that opportunities for creation of multifunctional green infrastructure are realised so that this landscape is resilient to the forces of change that it is experiencing. There are scattered lines of trees along riverbanks. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Many trees have been removed from the riverbanks as part of flood protection works.</p> <p>Pollarded willows form distinct localised features in the landscape.</p> <p>Scattered trees in association with the flat topography filter views through the landscape.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> <p>Encourage the continuing practice of pollarding to maintain the traditional riparian character of the landscape.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to retain occasional wet woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Many of the inherent habitat types would be associated with wetland habitats.</p> <p>There are scattered trees along most hedgerows, ditches and minor streams.</p> <p>Wetland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>The water level is increasingly being controlled by ditches and field drainage, allowing for more extensive cropping.</p> <p>Opportunities for spring cultivation are limited, so winter cereals form the main crop.</p> <p>Intensification of farming and an increasing move towards cropping means that the ecological value of this landscape is diminishing.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Urban | u | No | This is traditionally an uninhabited landscape due to the risk of flooding, although there are occasional scattered farmsteads. This landscape immediately abuts the urban fringes of Derby and urban expansion, especially residential, is having a major impact on this landscape type. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the Trent Valley Washlands' river and flood plain landscape to combine its essential provision and regulation of water role with landscape enhancement, nature conservation, climate regulation, farming, recreation and a resource for understanding geodiversity. Flat flood plains containing meandering rivers and streams. Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees, as identified by The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

8.2.3 Wet Pasture Meadows

A flat, low-lying mixed farming landscape, with regular and geometric field patterns. Hawthorn hedgerows enclose fields and there are scattered trees, including willow pollards along hedges and ditches.

Key Characteristics:

- Flat low-lying irregular shaped basins;
- Waterlogged soils;
- Mixed farming with patches of unimproved grassland;
- Scattered trees along hedgerows and ditches;
- Visually prominent willow pollards;
- Medium to large regular or geometric shaped fields with hawthorn hedgerows; and
- Largely uninhabited with very occasional, large, red brick farmsteads.

Table 121: Wet Pasture Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Wet Pasture Meadows | Flat low-lying irregular shaped basins; Visually prominent willow pollards; and Scattered trees along most hedgerows, ditches and minor streams. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 122: Wet Pasture Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Wet Pasture Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Wetland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional small wet woodland |
| Woodland Type | Alder-crack willow with ash & downy birch |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | Not applicable |
| Cultural Interests | Late Parliamentary enclosures |

Table 123: Wet Pasture Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>The land-use is mixed farming with an increasing move towards arable.</p> <p>Today there are still patches of unimproved grassland and rush pasture.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Carefully plan and manage new development within the NCA to ensure that landscape character and ecosystem services are strengthened, that heritage features, wildlife habitats, woodland and the hedgerow network are enhanced, and that opportunities for creation of multifunctional green infrastructure are realised so that this landscape is resilient to the forces of change that it is experiencing.</p> <p>There are scattered trees along most hedgerows, ditches and minor streams.</p> <p>Tree cover is not a prominent feature of this landscape, although trees are well represented throughout and, coupled with tall hedgerows, provide filtered views.</p> <p>Pollarded willows are a particularly distinctive feature.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> <p>Encourage the continuing practice of pollarding to maintain the traditional riparian character of the landscape.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to retain occasional small wet woodland.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the Trent Valley Washlands' river and flood plain landscape to combine its essential provision and regulation of water role with landscape enhancement, nature conservation, climate regulation, farming, recreation and a resource for understanding geodiversity.</p> <p>Trees are apparent throughout, usually scattered along hedgerows, ditches and minor streams.</p> <p>Wetland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>The land-use is mixed farming with an increasing move towards arable.</p> <p>The water level is increasingly being controlled by ditches and field drainage, allowing for more extensive cropping. Opportunities for spring cultivation are limited, so winter cereals form the main crop.</p> <p>Intensification of farming and an increasing move towards cropping means that the ecological value of this landscape is diminishing.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>This is traditionally an uninhabited landscape due to the risk of flooding, although there are occasional scattered farmsteads.</p> <p>This landscape immediately abuts the urban fringes of Derby and urban expansion, especially residential, is having a major impact on this landscape type.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | <p>There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the Trent Valley Washlands' river and flood plain landscape to combine its essential provision and regulation of water role with landscape enhancement, nature conservation, climate regulation, farming, recreation and a resource for understanding geodiversity.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

9.0 NCA 70: Melbourne Parklands

9.1 Key Characteristics

- An undulating landform of Sherwood Sandstone in the west of the NCA, with Carboniferous limestones forming a broken ridge of hills in the east and extending south-eastwards. Flatter areas around Ticknall, Calke Abbey and Dimmingsdale.
- In the east of the NCA the less resistant Triassic siltstones and mudstones of the Mercia Mudstone Group produce a gently rolling lowland plateau of productive, reddish clay soils suitable for agriculture. The less permeable soils are typically used for pasture (and, historically, for dairying), the drier soils are for cereals and potatoes, and the dark loams around Melbourne are for market gardening.
- The Breedon Hill Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) comprises one of the largest areas of species-rich limestone grassland in Leicestershire.
- Alluvium deposits and river terraces are evident between Hemington and Lockington, in the north-east of the NCA;
- Differential erosion by dynamic river systems has dissected the plateau and created narrow-sided, north-flowing river valleys. Two valleys have been dammed to form large reservoirs;
- Large landscaped parks with grand country houses and mixed woodlands, and remnant orchards associated with market gardening;
- New woodland planting associated with The National Forest;
- There are many scattered, sometimes ancient, hedgerow trees in the core area. By contrast, low and well-trimmed hedges are found around some arable fields in peripheral areas;
- Extensive areas of unimproved pasture and remnant acid grassland with heathy scrub persist, with woodland on some steep, undulating sandstone slopes;
- The major Mercian ecclesiastical centres at Repton and Breedon-on-the-Hill are rich in Christian and Viking heritage, and prominently-sited churches invoke a historic feel to the NCA. Breedon-on-the-Hill was the site of a Saxon monastery, with Saxon carvings preserved in the church;
- Large, nucleated villages – the most remote built of attractive, mellow yellow brick, with a few surviving timber-framed buildings;
- Small, clustered red-brick villages retain a rural character, but those close to the River Trent valley, including Melbourne, Repton and Castle Donington, are larger; and
- East Midlands Airport, with its important passenger and freight terminal, is located in the east of the NCA and serviced by the A42 and M1.

9.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 70: Melbourne Parklands within DCC

9.2.1 Estate Farmlands

A broad, gently rolling lowland mixed farming landscape with occasional red brick villages, scattered estate farmsteads and country houses. Tree cover is well represented with small estate woodlands, dense watercourse trees, scattered hedgerow trees and localised parkland trees.

Key Characteristics:

- Gently rolling plateau dissected by minor river valleys;
- Seasonally waterlogged fine loamy soils over Permo-Triassic Mudstones, Siltstones and Sandstones;
- Mixed farming with intensive arable cropping and improved permanent pasture;
- Estate woodlands with broadleaf and coniferous species;
- Scattered hedgerow trees;
- Dense watercourse trees;
- Predominantly medium size semi-regular and regular fields enclosed by hedgerows;
- Settlements constructed of red brick with clay tiled roofs;
- Scattered red brick estate farmsteads and the occasional country house; and
- Open views from elevated areas over surrounding lower lying landscapes.

Table 124: Estate Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Estate Farmlands | Mixed farming with intensive arable cropping and improved permanent pasture; Open views from elevated areas over surrounding lower lying landscapes; and Cultural associations with large estates, and the settlements of Repton and Melbourne. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 125: Estate Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Estate Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------|--|
| Land Use | Mixed arable |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Thinly scattered small plantations/refer to National Forest Strategy |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly & hazel |

| Estate Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement & parkland |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages & sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Historic villages, green lanes |

Table 126: Estate Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>The land-use is mixed farming with intensive arable cropping and improved permanent pasture. The plateau areas are predominantly arable due to the gentle relief and the well-drained, easily cultivated soils.</p> <p>Remnant unimproved grassland is now confined to the road margins and the occasional field margin in pastoral areas.</p> <p>Ecologically, this landscape type is poor as a result of intensive farming practices. The arable crops and improved permanent pastures and leys are of little ecological value.</p> <p>Farmland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Manage the new planting of The National Forest and restore the characteristics of the historic parklands and woodlands. Conserve and manage the hedgerows and hedgerow trees, preserving the field patterns of early enclosures and maintaining the legacy of historic land use, bringing benefits for soil quality, biodiversity and recreation.</p> <p>The trees and woodlands play an important role in emphasising estate character. The wooded character is reinforced by dense lines of trees along watercourses.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Numerous small woodland blocks interlink to form a more complex network of habitats that supplement the terrestrial corridors.</p> <p>Trees combine to restrict or filter views through the landscape. The relative lack of trees on the plateaux means that there are open views.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small scale woodland planting; Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting; Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows; Conserve and renew ornamental plantations and individual parkland trees; and <p>National Forest Guidelines apply for the area within the National Forest.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to retain thinly scattered small plantations/refer to National Forest Strategy.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Wet pasture and patches of marsh with rushes are a feature of some of the minor stream valleys.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>The land-use is mixed farming with intensive arable cropping and improved permanent pasture.</p> <p>Ecologically, this landscape type is poor as a result of intensive farming practices. The arable crops and improved permanent pastures and leys are of little ecological value.</p> <p>Farmland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>This relatively sparsely populated landscape has a number of country houses set in landscaped parks.</p> <p>The principal settlements of Repton and Melbourne have an impressive number of historic buildings.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | Between villages there are sparsely scattered estate farmsteads. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Terrestrial corridors are strong with many hedgerows and lines of trees along watercourses. Wet pasture and patches of marsh with rushes are a feature of some of the minor stream valleys. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

9.2.2. Riverside meadows

Narrow, flat flood plains, containing meandering rivers and streams with dense trees along riverbanks. A mixed farming landscape of medium sized hedged fields.

Key Characteristics:

- Flat flood plains containing meandering rivers and streams;
- Seasonally waterlogged soils over alluvium;
- Traditional pasture now reverted to intensive mixed farming;
- Localised patches of rushes in damp hollows;
- Dense watercourse trees;
- Regular shaped fields bounded by hawthorn hedges; and
- Lanes alongside or crossing the flood plain.

Table 127: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Riverside Meadows | Flat flood plains containing meandering rivers and streams; Ridge and furrow add local distinctiveness to the river meadows; and The flood plain remains fairly open with relatively distant views along the valley; |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 128: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Wetland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Occasional small wet woodlands |
| Woodland Type | Alder-crack willow with ash & downy birch |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | Not applicable (Red brick mills) |
| Cultural Interests | Small historic mills, ridge & furrow |

Table 129: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | Intensification of farming in the surrounding landscapes has transgressed onto the flood plains and, with improved drainage, there is an increasing shift towards arable farming. Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT. |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Manage the new planting of The National Forest and restore the characteristics of the historic parklands and woodlands. Conserve and manage the hedgerows and hedgerow trees, preserving the field patterns of early enclosures and maintaining the legacy of historic land use, bringing benefits for soil quality, biodiversity and recreation. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>There are dense lines of trees along the riverbanks.</p> <p>The flood plain remains fairly open with relatively distant views along the valley.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long- lived species;</p> <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> <p>Encourage the continuing practice of pollarding to maintain the traditional riparian character of the landscape.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to retain occasional small wet woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Some areas are permanently waterlogged and some hollows retain floodwater long after the majority of floods have subsided.</p> <p>The narrow Ramsley Brook flows with unpolluted water, making it very valuable as a freshwater habitat. All watercourses are important wildlife habitats, as are their banks and margins. Pasture with a high-water table, where the soil is permanently wet, is important ecologically for species rich meadows associated with ground beetles and birds, such as curlew and snipe.</p> <p>Wetland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Intensification of farming in the surrounding landscapes has transgressed onto the flood plains and, with improved drainage, there is an increasing shift towards arable farming. |
| Urban | u | No | Historically there was little built development on the flood plain, excepting the occasional water mill for grinding corn. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | There are occasional farmsteads on the higher, better drained sections. As a result, transport routes are also scarce, other than the occasional river crossing. A single railway line impinges on the flood plain immediately south of New Bridge. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | The narrow Ramsley Brook flows with unpolluted water, making it very valuable as a freshwater habitat. All watercourses are important wildlife habitats, as are their banks and margins. Pasture with a high-water table, where the soil is permanently wet, is important ecologically for species rich meadows associated with ground beetles and birds, such as curlew and snipe. Some sections of Ramsley Brook have been canalised and as a consequence their biodiversity value has diminished. Sections of the river are lost entirely in places where they have been culverted or drained. The landscape is characterised by a narrow flood plain associated with the Ramsley Brook and Carr Brook, which eventually discharge into the River Trent. Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

9.2.3 Sandstone Slopes & Heaths

A wooded, pastoral landscape on moderate to steep slopes with prominent rounded undulations and hillocks.

Key Characteristics:

- Prominent landform of moderate to steep sandstone slopes and valleys with rounded undulations;
- Well-drained sandy soils;
- A pastoral land-use with mixed farming on gentler gradients;
- Heathy associations on steeper slopes and along some hedgerows;

- Prominent woodland with small linear woods, scattered hedgerow trees, scrub and occasional parkland trees;
- Medium to large size regular and sub-regular fields with mixed species hedgerows; and
- Sparsely settled landscape with very occasional red brick and clay tile farmsteads and estate cottages.

Table 130: Sandstone Slopes & Heaths - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|---------------------------|--|
| Sandstone Slopes & Heaths | <p>A pastoral land-use with mixed farming on gentler gradients;</p> <p>Heathy associations on steeper slopes and along some hedgerows; and</p> <p>Sandstone weathers away slowly to form steep slopes and valley sides, and differential erosion of the slopes themselves has created visually prominent rounded undulations and hillocks.</p> |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 131 Sandstone Slopes & Heaths - Landscape character attributes

| Sandstone Slopes & Heaths | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Mixed Farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Acid grassland/heath |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Densely scattered small woodlands/Refer to National Forest Strategy |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly & hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Sparsely scattered farms & cottages |

| Sandstone Slopes & Heaths | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|--|
| Traditional Materials | Red brick or sandstone with Staffordshire blue clay tile roofs |
| Cultural Interests | Remnant parkland |

Table 132: Sandstone Slopes & Heaths - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>In areas of unimproved pasture, on the steepest slopes, patches of acid grassland still persist.</p> <p>The light sandy soils are easily worked and lend themselves to arable cropping.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is the main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Acid grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Manage the new planting of The National Forest and restore the characteristics of the historic parklands and woodlands. Conserve and manage the hedgerows and hedgerow trees, preserving the field patterns of early enclosures and maintaining the legacy of historic land use, bringing benefits for soil quality, biodiversity and recreation.</p> <p>A key habitat type is woodland, which is also a visually prominent feature. On the steeper upper slopes, where land is less cultivable, woodland prevails.</p> <p>Small woodland blocks tend to hug the upper, steeper slopes and are often linear in shape, following the natural contours of slopes and valleys.</p> <p>There are scattered boundary trees along hedgerows, sparsely scattered in areas of mixed farming.</p> <p>Views through the landscape and along the slopes are often blocked or filtered, mainly by trees and woodlands.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees; and</p> <p>National Forest Strategy and Guidance applies for the area within the National Forest.</p> <p>Woodland vision is to retain densely scattered small woodlands/Refer to National Forest Strategy.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>This heathy association, as a result of the free-draining soils, is further evidenced by the amount of bracken that can be seen in road verges, hedgerows and woodland margins.</p> <p>Heath is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | The light sandy soils are easily worked and lend themselves to arable cropping. |
| Urban | u | Yes | <p>Traditionally settlement is sparse, primarily due to the predominance of steep, uncultivable slopes.</p> <p>Some isolated slopes are totally uninhabited whilst others are only sparsely settled with an occasional farmstead and cottage.</p> <p>Today this sparsely scattered character is still obvious, but development pressures are beginning to increase to the south of Repton and on the slopes to the east of Burton-on-Trent.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Other impacts are few with the exception of Foremark Reservoir, which covers a sizeable area of one of these sandstone valleys.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

9.2.4 Wooded Estatelands

A well-wooded, gently undulating, estate landscape with large, estate farms and occasional country houses.

Key Characteristics:

- Underlying geology of sandstone, mudstone and Coal Measures giving rise to a large scale, gently undulating landform;
- Mixed farming with occasional areas of improved pasture;
- Medium size interlocking plantation woodlands of mixed species composition;
- Densely scattered hedgerow trees and dense lines of watercourse trees;
- Extensive parkland trees including ornamental specimens, tree groups and avenues;
- Medium size regular shaped fields with hawthorn hedgerows; and
- Well-wooded landscape with views restricted by tree cover.

Table 133: Wooded Estatelands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Wooded Estatelands | Mixed farming with occasional areas of improved pasture; Well-wooded landscape with views restricted by tree cover; and Calke Abbey and its landscaped park which contains ancient woodlands. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 134: Wooded Estatelands - Landscape character attributes

| Wooded Estatelands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------|--|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Other Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Refer to the National Forest Strategy and Guidelines |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly & hazel |

| Wooded Estatelands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement & parkland |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages & sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone or red brick with Staffordshire blue clay roof tiles |
| Cultural Interests | Calke Abbey |

Table 135: Wooded Estatelands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>The predominant land-use is mixed farming although there are extensive areas of parkland. Typically, remnant acid grassland is found over sandstone and neutral grassland in the more nutrient-rich valleys.</p> <p>Farmland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Manage the new planting of The National Forest and restore the characteristics of the historic parklands and woodlands. Conserve and manage the hedgerows and hedgerow trees, preserving the field patterns of early enclosures and maintaining the legacy of historic land use, bringing benefits for soil quality, biodiversity and recreation.</p> <p>A well-wooded landscape where tree cover is visually prominent.</p> <p>Trees and woodland are a key ecological resource. Numerous small to medium size plantations interlink to form a complex network of habitats, supplemented by connecting corridors formed by the hedgerows.</p> <p>The wooded character is further enhanced by dense lines of trees along the watercourses.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Within the grounds of Calke Abbey and the immediate surroundings, there are numerous parkland trees, ancient reminders of former wood pasture.</p> <p>Together the trees and woodlands combine to restrict views through the landscape and limit views to landscapes beyond.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species;</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees;</p> <p>Conserve and renew ornamental plantations and individual parkland trees;</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows; and</p> <p>Refer to the National Forest Strategy and Guidance.</p> <p>Woodland vision, refer to the National Forest Strategy and Guidance.</p> <p>Woodland is the main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | No | <p>The wooded character is further enhanced by dense lines of trees along the watercourses.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Cropland | c | Yes | The predominant land-use is mixed farming although there are extensive areas of parkland. Much of the pasture has been improved and where the soils are free-draining there is some cropping. Farmland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | This is inherently a sparsely settled landscape, due in part to its development as estate land. Ticknall is a settlement associated with the quarrying of a small outcropping of limestone but also had a post- medieval pottery industry. Between villages there are scattered farmsteads and cottages. Many of these are estate farms and as such tend to be large. At the centre of this landscape character type, and a major determinant of its overall character, is Calke Abbey and its landscaped park which contains ancient woodlands. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | The wooded character is further enhanced by dense lines of trees along the watercourses. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

10.0 NCA 71: Leicestershire & South Derbyshire Coalfield

10.1 Key Characteristics

- The landscape is unenclosed with shallow valleys, subdued sandstone ridges and a gently undulating plateau;
- There are heavy, poorly draining soils over the Coal Measures and mudstones of the Mercia Mudstone Group, and free-draining soils on the sandstone ridges. The area forms part of a regional watershed between the River Mease to the south and the River Soar to the east and has many minor, swift flowing streams draining the area, for example Saltersford Brook and Rothley Brook. Flooded clay pits and mining have resulted in many subsidence pools or flashes, which in combination with Thornton Reservoir provide valuable open water sites for nature conservation and recreation;
- The area has a developing woodland character that is heavily influenced by the work of The National Forest initiative, which augments locally dense riparian woodland and prominent amenity trees around settlements with developing woodland on former colliery sites;
- Small- to medium-sized fields occur with a wide variation in field pattern, including some narrow, curved fields that preserve the strips of the open field system. Where arable production predominates, fields have been enlarged. Hedgerows are low with a few scattered hedgerow trees and in places show the effects of former open cast workings;
- Agriculture comprises a mixture of arable and mixed sheep and beef units and, to a lesser extent, dairy. Combinable crops are grown on the freer-draining soils. Potatoes are grown in rotation on the heavier soils around Measham and Packington;
- There is remnant acid grassland over sandstone with neutral grassland in the valleys, and acid heathland on open mosaic habitats on previously developed land, particularly colliery spoil. The River Mease SSSI and SAC has internationally important spined loach and bullhead fish and nationally important white-clawed crayfish, otter, and aquatic plants such as water crowfoot.
- Rich heritage assets include Ashby-de-la-Zouch medieval castle and industrial heritage including the Ashby Canal and Moira Furnace, one of the best examples of an early 18th-century blast furnace. Archaeological assets include a moated medieval village at Desford and the Roman town at Ravenstone;
- Traditional vernacular is predominately locally manufactured red brick with tile or slate roofs. Some older buildings are of stone. Locally characteristic around Measham is a double-sized brick of the late 18th century known as the 'Measham gob'. There are many three-storey brick built farmhouses;
- The settlement pattern is dominated by mining settlements. Isolated hamlets along the roadsides and small villages centred on a church contrast with extensive areas of 20th-century housing and prominent industrial and commercial distribution warehouses at the edge of larger centres, notably Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Measham and Coalville;
- Around Coleorton, a more dispersed pattern of settlement associated with small-scale bell pit mining of the 13th century, spoil heaps, small fields, a dense network of footpaths and a fine example of historic parkland landscape contribute to the distinctiveness of this part of the coalfield landscape; and

- The area is easily accessible by major roads and rail and is close to East Midlands Airport. Long-distance recreational routes include the Ivanhoe Way, the Leicestershire Round, and a wide network of local trails and footpaths associated with the recreational assets of The National Forest. The Ashby Canal also provides a link to the wider area.

10.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 71: Leicestershire & South Derbyshire Coalfield within DCC

10.2.1 Coalfield Village Farmlands

An undulating, industrialised mixed farming landscape with former mining settlement, punctuated by woodland, scattered hedgerow and watercourse trees.

Key Characteristics:

- Heavy, poorly draining soils over mudstone with patches of free-draining soils on sandstone ridges;
- Rolling plateau of sandstone and mudstone beds with coal seams;
- Pastoral farming with localised arable farming on better drained soils;
- Patches of semi-natural woodland;
- Scattered hedgerow trees and locally dense trees along watercourses;
- Scrub and secondary woodland on derelict ground and along rail and road embankments;
- Areas of former parkland, and common land, now enclosed and farmed;
- Network of small irregular lanes between larger urban roads;
- Red brick buildings with Staffordshire blue clay tile roofs;
- Expansion of villages with red brick terraces, ribbon development and housing estates; and
- Legacy of coal extraction.

Table 136: Coalfield Village Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Coalfield Village Farmlands | Patches of semi-natural woodland; Areas of former parkland, and common land, now enclosed and farmed; and Legacy of coal extraction. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 137: Coalfield Village Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Coalfield Village Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Other Habitat Type | Acid & neutral grassland |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | Refer to the National Forest Strategy and Guidelines |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with ash, downy birch & hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages & scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Strip fields around villages, industrial heritage |

Table 138: Coalfield Village Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>The relatively subdued topography ensures that the dominant land use is mixed farming, resulting in a mixture of pasture and feed crops.</p> <p>The farmland supports remnants of acid grassland over sandstone with neutral grassland in the more nutrient rich valleys.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is the main habitat type within this LCT.</p> <p>Acid and neutral grassland is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and conserve ancient and plantation woodland and plan appropriately scaled new woodland cover, particularly in The National Forest; restore and reinstate hedgerows and hedgerow trees and increase biomass provision, timber supply and biodiversity that will mitigate the impact of climate change and enhance the experiential qualities of the area.</p> <p>Along streamlines there are occasional, locally dense watercourse trees. There are also locally prominent amenity trees around settlements.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Small scale woodlands occur in this landscape, often associated with areas of former parkland or with estate ownership.</p> <p>Some woodlands, like Hall Wood and Several Wood, are remnant ancient woodlands.</p> <p>Woodland is being significantly extended through the National Forest area.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> <p>Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees;</p> <p>Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows; and</p> <p>Refer to National Forest Strategy and Guidance.</p> <p>Woodland vision, refer to the National Forest Strategy and Guidelines.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | Acid heathland has colonised free-draining colliery spoil and birch has invaded some derelict sites, beginning the slow succession to woodland. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and manage the area's riverine and flood plain environment, its manmade and natural wetland habitats, especially the River Mease for its internationally and nationally important species and range of river plants, for the benefit of biodiversity, sense of place, water quality, recreation, geodiversity and climate regulation. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | The relatively subdued topography ensures that the dominant land use is mixed farming, resulting in a mixture of pasture and feed crops. |
| Urban | u | No | There was very rapid development of the coalfield following the start of the industrial revolution. Most of the buildings of the past two centuries have been |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | constructed of red brick. Such buildings are particularly significant in mining settlements. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | There is evidence of previous extraction as identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation data produced by Historic England within this LCT. Much of the coalfield has been impacted upon by mining. Derelict areas have been reworked as part of opencast mining schemes, creating tracts of immature landscape. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and manage the area's riverine and flood plain environment, its manmade and natural wetland habitats, especially the River Mease for its internationally and nationally important species and range of river plants, for the benefit of biodiversity, sense of place, water quality, recreation, geodiversity and climate regulation. Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

11.0 NCA 72: Mease/Sence Lowlands

11.1 Key Characteristics

- This is a gently rolling landscape with rounded clay ridges and shallow valleys, with a more undulating landform in the north-west. This is a well ordered agricultural landscape of open views, with a relatively tranquil character;
- Triassic Mercia Mudstones underlie this area and give rise to productive clay soils; outcrops of sandstone extend across the area southwards and westwards from the edge of the adjacent coalfield;
- Woodland cover is generally limited to scattered hedgerow trees, coverts and spinneys, and occasional groups of trees along rivers and streams. Larger-scale planting associated with The National Forest in the north of the NCA has significantly increased woodland cover and strengthened the wooded character of the landscape;
- The majority of the farmland has a strongly rectilinear pattern of low hedgerows and scattered hedgerow trees. On steeper ground and heavier clays, hedgerows are more substantial and hedgerow trees more frequent;
- Extensive, open areas of arable cultivation predominate. On steeper ground and heavier clays the land is less intensively farmed, and arable and pasture are mixed. Beef and dairy farming are also common;
- The main river courses of the Mease and Sence are generally very open; they are nationally important for nature conservation and support internationally rare species, including the white-clawed crayfish, spined loach, and bullhead fish. Willow and alder riparian vegetation is a feature along minor streams;
- Important habitats include neutral grasslands, wet meadows, parkland, wet woodlands, rivers and streams, all of which support characteristic and rare species;
- The Ashby Canal and Coventry Canal are landscape features that are important for nature conservation and recreation. They act as reminders of our cultural heritage;
- Landscaped parklands and fine country house estates, spired churches and historic farmsteads, areas of remnant ridge and furrow and deserted settlements contribute to the time depth and sense of history of the area;
- with wide verges and straight enclosure roads. Red brick buildings and spired churches are often prominent landscape features. Isolated large 19th-century red brick farmsteads are also notable; and
- Larger modern urban development is present on the fringes of the NCA in Nuneaton, Hinckley and Burton-upon-Trent. Straight motorways and main roads cut through the area north-south and east-west.

11.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 72: Mease/ Sence Lowlands within DCC

11.2.1 Riverside Meadows

A narrow, flat flood plain, containing a tightly meandering river with scattered trees along riverbanks, including willow pollards. A pastoral landscape of generally small, regular, hedged fields.

Key Characteristics:

- Flat flood plains containing a tightly meandering river;
- Seasonally waterlogged soils over alluvium;
- Moderate intensity permanent pasture;
- Localised patches of rushes in damp hollows;
- Scattered, locally dense trees along watercourses;
- Regular shaped fields bounded by predominantly hawthorn hedges; and
- Lanes alongside or crossing the flood plain.

Table 139: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Riverside Meadows | Localised patches of rushes in damp hollows; Flat flood plains containing a tightly meandering river; and A narrow, flat river meadow landscape characterised by a narrow alluvium flood plain associated with the River Mease. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 140: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Wetland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Unwooded |
| Woodland Vision | Refer to National Forest Strategy and Guidelines |
| Woodland Type | Alder-crack willow with ash & downy birch |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | Not applicable (Red brick mills) |

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Cultural Interests | Water mills |
|--------------------|-------------|

Table 141: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Risk of flooding makes the land difficult to work for arable cropping although some arable fields can be found as a result of recent drainage improvements and flood protection measures.</p> <p>There are a few fields that remain unimproved and, as a consequence, retain some ecological value.</p> <p>Unimproved pasture is a secondary habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and conserve the woodland habitat of the landscape and plan to expand appropriately scaled woodland cover, particularly in The National Forest, to increase people's access and enjoyment and to secure opportunities to enhance biomass and biodiversity and manage the impact of climate change.</p> <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and appropriately manage the historic character, settlement pattern and features of this landscape, in particular its ancient woodlands, veteran trees, landscaped parklands and areas of archaeological interest, including ridge and furrow.</p> <p>There are scattered, locally dense lines of trees along the riverbanks.</p> <p>Many trees have been removed from the riverbanks as part of flood protection works.</p> <p>The flood plain remains fairly open with relatively distant views along the valley.</p> <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species;</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees;</p> <p>Encourage the continuing practice of pollarding to maintain the traditional riparian character of the landscape; and</p> <p>Refer to the National Forest Strategy and Guidance.</p> <p>Woodland vision, refer to the National Forest Strategy and Guidance.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and appropriately manage this important network of natural and manmade rivers, streams, ponds, canals and other wetland habitats for its internationally important populations of white-clawed crayfish, spined loach and bullhead fish and their contribution to sense of place, water quality and climate regulation.</p> <p>Some areas are more permanently waterlogged and some hollows retain floodwater long after the majority of floods have subsided.</p> <p>The River Mease is relatively unpolluted making it very valuable as a freshwater habitat. Additional ecological value relates to the riverbanks and margins particularly associated with riparian trees.</p> <p>The flood plain remains fairly open with relatively distant views along the valley.</p> <p>Wetland is a main habitat type within this LCT.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | Historically, there was little built development on the flood plain, excepting the occasional water mill for grinding corn. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and appropriately manage this important network of natural and manmade rivers, streams, ponds, canals and other |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>wetland habitats for its internationally important populations of white-clawed crayfish, spined loach and bullhead fish and their contribution to sense of place, water quality and climate regulation.</p> <p>In places there are natural raised banks to the rivers known as levees.</p> <p>The River Mease is relatively unpolluted making it very valuable as a freshwater habitat. Additional ecological value relates to the riverbanks and margins particularly associated with riparian trees.</p> <p>The flood plain remains fairly open with relatively distant views along the valley.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

11.2.2 Village Estate Farmlands

This is a well-ordered, gently rolling agricultural landscape punctuated by discrete villages, scattered estate farmsteads and country houses. There are small game coverts and dense lines of trees along watercourses.

Key Characteristics:

- Broad scale, gently rolling lowland landscape;
- Seasonally waterlogged fine loamy soils over Permo-Triassic Mudstone;
- Mixed farming with intensive cropping and improved permanent pasture;
- Broadleaf plantations and game coverts;
- Tree lined, pastoral stream corridors;
- Medium to large regular and sub-regular fields with mainly hawthorn hedgerows;
- Winding country lanes with wide grass verges; and
- Small nucleated hilltop villages often with prominent church spire.

Table 142: Village Estate Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Village Estate Farmlands | Mixed farming with intensive cropping and improved permanent pasture; Tree lined, pastoral stream corridors; and Between villages there are scattered, large, red brick farm complexes, characteristic of estate properties, and occasional country houses like Caldwell Hall and Grangewood Hall. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape character - Derbyshire County Council](#)

Table 143: Village Estate Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Village Estate Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Mixed farming |
| Main Habitat Type | Farmland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | Refer to National Forest Strategy and Guidelines |
| Woodland Type | Ash-oak with field maple, holly & hazel |
| Hedgerow Trees | Thinly scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Thorn & mixed species hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Villages & sparsely scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile roof |
| Cultural Interests | Country houses |

Table 144: Village Estate Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>The land-use is typically mixed farming but with appropriate management and some underdrainage, the land grows moderately good crops and cereals.</p> <p>Ley grassland usually forms part of the crop rotation so that cattle and sheep are an integral part of the farming system.</p> <p>The Mease/Sence Lowlands is primarily an agricultural landscape and most of its habitats are associated with farmland.</p> <p>Remnant unimproved grassland persists in many of the wide road verges throughout this landscape character type. Their value is unfortunately diminishing due to a lack of management.</p> <p>Patches of unimproved grassland still persist around some of the villages and along the minor stream valleys.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and conserve the woodland habitat of the landscape and plan to expand appropriately scaled woodland cover, particularly in The National Forest, to increase people's access and enjoyment and to secure opportunities to enhance biomass and biodiversity and manage the impact of climate change.</p> <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and appropriately manage the historic character, settlement pattern and features of this landscape, in particular its ancient woodlands, veteran trees, landscaped parklands and areas of archaeological interest, including ridge and furrow.</p> <p>Tree cover patterns are variable relating mainly to the intensity of agriculture and new planting as part of the National Forest.</p> <p>Many of the woodlands tend to be small with regular shaped outlines.</p> <p>Along the minor streams that dissect this landscape type there are dense continuous lines of trees.</p> <p>Where trees are absent there are views through the landscape, the village church often appears as a focal point to these.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>The bullet points below are identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines:</p> <p>Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting;</p> <p>Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows;</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees;</p> <p>Conserve and renew ornamental plantations and individual parkland trees; and</p> <p>Refer to the National Forest Strategy and Guidance.</p> <p>Woodland vision, refer to the National Forest Strategy and Guidance.</p> <p>Woodland is becoming more visually prominent due to the National Forest Initiative.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and appropriately manage this important network of natural and manmade rivers, streams, ponds, canals and other wetland habitats for its internationally important populations of white-clawed crayfish, spined loach and bullhead fish and their contribution to sense of place, water quality and climate regulation.</p> <p>Watercourses are also important as wildlife corridors, forming a network of linked sites that are lined by dense tree belts.</p> |
| Cropland | c | Yes | <p>The land-use is typically mixed farming but with appropriate management and some underdrainage, the land grows moderately good crops and cereals.</p> <p>Ley grassland usually forms part of the crop rotation so that cattle and sheep are an integral part of the farming system.</p> |
| Urban | u | Yes | Nucleated villages, occupying locally higher ground, are dotted around this rolling lowland landscape. The characteristically tall spires of village churches punctuate the skyline. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Between villages there are scattered, large, red brick farm complexes, characteristic of estate properties, and occasional country houses like Caldwell Hall and Grangewood Hall. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and appropriately manage this important network of natural and manmade rivers, streams, ponds, canals and other wetland habitats for its internationally important populations of white-clawed crayfish, spined loach and bullhead fish and their contribution to sense of place, water quality and climate regulation.</p> <p>Small streams have created shallow valleys.</p> <p>Watercourses are also important as wildlife corridors, forming a network of linked sites that are lined by dense tree belts.</p> <p>Patches of unimproved grassland still persist around some of the villages and along the minor stream valleys.</p> <p>Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees as identified within The Landscape Character of Derbyshire planting and management guidelines.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.0 Geospatial Data and other published written assessment used

Geospatial Data and other published written assessment

Geospatial Data sets used include:

Crow access land
Green belt
Flood risk mapping zones 2 + 3
Country Parks
Registered Parks and Gardens
National Parks
National Trails
PRoWs
Ancient Woodland
Listed buildings
Scheduled monuments
Registered Parks and Gardens
World Heritage Sites
Heritage at Risk

Other Data sets used:

National Character Areas
DCC – Landscape Character Types
PDNP – Landscape Character Types
Historic Landscape Character – Specifically Extraction
Quarry draft areas from Derbyshire habitat map

12.1 Key Characteristics

- Sharply defined, elevated and vast plateau with gritstone ridges and edges and long, uninterrupted views;
- Wild and remote semi-natural character created by blanket bog, dwarf shrub heath and heather moorland which support internationally important habitats and assemblages of upland birds and breeding waders;
- Contrasting valley heads created by a combination of sheltered, deeply-incised cloughs with fast-flowing streams around the plateau margins, with their greater diversity of vegetation, including semi-natural broadleaved woodland;
- Pastoral character of margins created by in-bye land with dispersed farmsteads, gritstone wall boundaries (hedgerows in valley bottoms) and the small scale of enclosure;
- Major valleys, some of which are dominated by coniferous woodland and reservoirs; these supply drinking water to distant urban conurbations including Derby and Nottingham. The wider valleys also provide habitats for wintering and breeding birds and other important species such as fungi, as well as high-quality recreational experiences for visitors;
- Durable and stocky architectural style to dispersed buildings and settlements constructed from local gritstone with typical blackened appearance;
- Extensive prehistoric field systems and settlement behind the gritstone edges, with early post-glacial occupation beneath the higher, deeper peats; and

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

- Historic routes traverse the moorland as well as more modern trails such as the Pennine Bridleway and Pennine Way. More recent road and rail routes are located along valley bottoms.

12.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 51: Dark Peak within Peak District National Park

12.2.1 Estatelands (Derwent Valley)

Estatelands in Derwent valley sits largely within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits within NCA 52: White Peak.

An enclosed, estate landscape where views of agricultural land are framed by discrete blocks of woodland and scattered field boundary trees set within a varied, undulating topography. This is a landscape of villages, with historic halls and houses surrounded by parkland.

This landscape is found in three blocks, the largest centred on Pilsley, Haddon and Hassop. The remaining two areas include Chatsworth House and gardens east of the Derwent and Stanton Hall in the south.

Key Characteristics:

- A varied undulating topography with steep slopes in places;
- Large historic halls and houses set in parkland;
- Villages and outlying estate farmsteads and field barns;
- Regular pattern of medium large sized fields;
- Large blocks of plantation woodland; and
- Patches of acid grassland and bracken on steep slopes.

Table 145: Estatelands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Estatelands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important designated landscapes at Chatsworth, Haddon, Hassop and Thornbridge, contains registered parks and gardens; • A small, isolated limestone ridge at Cracknowl Pasture, to the north of Bakewell, forms part of this character type; • Large historic halls and houses set in parkland; • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 1: Estatelands - Landscape character attributes

| Estatelands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------|--|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Improved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Woodland |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Woodland Character | Extensive coniferous woodland plantations/ Linear shelter belts/Tree screens |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Ash is the dominant native tree along with oak, sycamore, beech and hawthorn. Spruce, pine and larch are to be found in the plantations. |
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | N/A |
| Settlement Character | Villages, large halls and farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Sandstone or Gritstone |
| Cultural Interests | Large historic halls and houses set in parkland including; Chatsworth House, Haddon Hall, Hassop Hall and Thornbridge Hall |

Table 2: Estatelands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This is an area of improved permanent pasture with mature hedgerow trees, drystone walls and hedges. In places, on the poorer soils, there are remnants of acid grassland with patches of bracken; in particular this can be found on northern slopes around Pilsley.</p> <p>Elsewhere there are isolated patches of semi-improved grassland alongside tracks and edges of fields.</p> <p>This is a landscape of intensively managed permanent pasture in a regular pattern of fields with extensive coniferous woodlands and parkland. Stock rearing for beef and, in particular, dairying is an important land use.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>e</u>nhance the diversity of agricultural grassland and enhance the diversity of arable farmland.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Views are filtered by the extensive tree cover throughout the area. This is found as a mixture of large plantation coniferous woodlands, discrete linear shelter belts, tree screens and scattered mature boundary trees. Ash is the dominant native tree along with oak, sycamore, beech and hawthorn. Spruce, pine and larch are to be found in the plantations.</p> <p>This is a landscape of intensively managed permanent pasture in a regular pattern of fields with extensive coniferous woodlands and parkland. Stock rearing for beef and, in particular, dairying is an important land use.</p> <p>Parkland is one of the key features of the estatelands, with important designed landscapes at Chatsworth, Haddon, Hassop and Thornbridge.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Protect historic parkland landscapes / <u>m</u>Manage and enhance woodlands / <u>m</u>Manage and enhance plantation woodlands/ <u>M</u>manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees and <u>C</u>create new native broadleaved woodland.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | Yes | Management strategy is to E nhance the diversity of agricultural grassland and E nhance the diversity of arable farmland. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>There is a strongly nucleated pattern of discrete villages, large halls and outlying farms. The villages and several of the smaller settlements and halls have medieval origins, although the largely of today's buildings date from the 17th century onwards.</p> <p>There are large numbers of estate buildings, both in the villages and in the countryside, which have architectural details beyond the local vernacular styles, including houses, lodges and outbuildings.</p> <p>Impressive estate-designed buildings are also found at Hassop and Pilsley.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | <p>There are no active quarries within the Dark Peak but there are remains of old quarries, which form an important part of the character of the area. They are a valued cultural heritage, biodiversity, educational and, particularly, recreational resource, with many old quarries being used for rock climbing and bouldering.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.2 Gritstone Village Farmlands (Derwent Valley)

Gritstone Village Farmlands in Derwent valley sits within NCA 51: Dark Peak.

A small-scale, settled pastoral landscape associated with gently rolling gritstone uplands. The landscape is enclosed by a pattern of small to medium sized fields bounded by gritstone walls. Views are open and wide, framed by surrounding higher land.

The Gritstone Village Farmlands are long established agricultural landscapes, each associated with a central village. They are found in two locations around the villages of Abney and Birchover.

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling gritstone upland;
- Pastoral farmland enclosed by drystone walls;
- Small to medium-sized fields;
- Gritstone villages with outlying farms and dwellings; and
- Wide views to surrounding high hills.

Table 148: Gritstone Village Farmlands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Gritstone Village Farmlands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide views to surrounding high hills; • Pastoral farmland enclosed by drystone walls; and • This is an open, settled landscape with a well defined pattern of small fields enclosed by drystone walls often resulting from the enclosure of Medieval open fields. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 3: Gritstone Village Farmlands - Landscape character attributes

| Gritstone Village Farmlands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Pasture |
| Main Habitat Type | Improved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | N/A |
| Woodland Character | Small groups localised around settlements |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Sycamore, ash and oak |
| Hedgerow Trees | Sycamore, ash and oak |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Drystone wall |
| Settlement Character | Nucleated villages and scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone with stone slate or Staffordshire blue clay roof tile |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 4: Gritstone Village Farmlands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>The land here mainly consists of permanent pasture of moderate to high intensity, grazed by sheep and cattle.</p> <p>There is little ecological interest over most of the area because pasture predominates.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>e</u>Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>This is an open landscape with trees confined to small groups around settlements and as mature trees within boundaries. Sycamore, ash and oak are the predominant species.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>M</u>manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Management strategy is to <u>e</u> Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>The nucleated villages of Abney and Birchover lie at the cores of the two small areas of this landscape type. There are several isolated outlying farmsteads within the two traditional townships. Birchover was associated with the nearby gritstone quarries and benefited from good building stone.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Protect historic drystone walls / <u>m</u>Manage the network of tracks and footpaths to maximise opportunities to enjoy the landscape and manage the built environment to enhance landscape character.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | Management strategy is to develop appropriate landscapes from mineral workings. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.3 Moorland Slopes and Cloughs (Dark Peak Western Fringe)

Moorland Slopes and Cloughs in Dark Peak Western Fringe sits within NCA 51: Dark Peak. Steep slopes and cloughs rising to precipitous gritstone edges and scree slopes, with rough grassland and heather moor grazed by sheep. This is largely an exposed, unsettled landscape with views over lower ground.

This landscape occurs in one location within the Dark Peak Western Fringe, in the west of the area, along Coombes Edge and around Long Clough.

Key Characteristics:

- Steep slopes and cloughs, in places rising to precipitous edges;
- Prominent gritstone outcrops, boulders and scree slopes;
- Thin soils over gritstone bedrock;
- Rough acid grassland and heather moorland grazed by sheep; and
- Exposed views over lower ground, sometimes limited by clough sides.

Table 5: Moorland Slopes and Cloughs - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Moorland Slopes and Cloughs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prominent gritstone outcrops, boulders and scree slopes; • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3; • This LCT contains areas of CROW access land; • Rough acid grassland and heather moorland grazed by sheep; and • Landform creates a sense of elevation with panoramic views over surrounding countryside and settlements. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 6: Moorland Slopes and Cloughs - Landscape character attributes

| Moorland Slopes and Cloughs | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Treeless/ occasional small coniferous plantation woodland |
| Woodland Vision | Create new native broadleaved woodland |
| Woodland Type | Scattered trees |

| Moorland Slopes and Cloughs | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | N/A |
| Boundary Type | Drystone wall |
| Settlement Character | Occasional isolated farmstead |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone roof tiles |
| Cultural Interests | Coombes Edge |

Table 7: Moorland Slopes and Cloughs - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Owing to poor quality soils, this is a landscape with patches of semi-natural vegetation with a mixture of heather and bilberry, and acid grassland where mat grass and purple moor grasses are dominant.</p> <p>Owing to its elevation and poor quality soils, this is a marginal agricultural landscape used primarily as rough grazing for sheep; there are some improved pastures but these tend to be small and localised.</p> <p>Management strategy is to mManage and enhance semi-natural grassland and wetland landscapes and MManage and enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The poor soils, exposure and grazing on these moorland slopes restrict tree growth, resulting in an essentially treeless landscape over much of the type. However, scattered trees and patches of scrub occur within cloughs and occasional small coniferous plantation woodlands are found on moorland slopes.</p> <p>Management strategy is to mManage and enhance woodlands and cCreate new native broadleaved woodland.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Owing to poor quality soils, this is a landscape with patches of semi-natural vegetation with a mixture of heather and bilberry, and acid grassland where mat grass and purple moor grasses are dominant.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Mmanage and enhance areas of heath/moor, and /Ccreate, extendextend, and link areas of heath/moor.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | This is a very sparsely settled landscape with only occasional isolated gritstone farmsteads with stone tile roofs on lower slopes. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | <p>Upper slopes and steep clough sides have gritstone outcrops. Some support fern banks while on land that is inaccessible to grazing, such as ledges, tall vegetation species such can flourish.</p> <p>There are some outcrops of gritstone, on steeper slopes most notably where it forms distinct edges with precipitous rock faces as at Coombes Edge.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.4 Moorland Slopes and Cloughs (Eastern Moors)

Moorland Slopes and Cloughs in Eastern Moors sits within NCA 51: Dark Peak.

Steep slopes and dramatic gritstone edges rising to Open Moors, with widespread rough grassland, bracken and heather moor, grazed by sheep. This is a wild unsettled landscape with exposed views over lower ground.

This landscape occurs as a series of narrow strips around the edge of the open moorland core, on both the west and the east.

Key Characteristics:

- Steep slopes rising to precipitous edges;
- Prominent gritstone outcrops and spreads of boulders beneath these;
- Thin soils over gritstone and coal measure bedrock with relict quarries, mining and hollow-ways;
- Rough acid grassland, bracken and heather moorland grazed by sheep; and
- Exposed views over lower ground.

Table 8: Moorland Slopes and Cloughs - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Moorland Slopes and Cloughs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steep slopes rising to precipitous edges; • The slopes are of outstanding importance for a range of recreation activities including rock climbing on the gritstone edges, bouldering, paragliding and walking; • Today, most of the slopes are open access land and are only accessible on foot; and • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 9: Moorland Slopes and Cloughs - Landscape character attributes

| Moorland Slopes and Cloughs | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Thinly scattered small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | N/A |
| Boundary Type | Drystone walls |
| Settlement Character | Occasional buildings and isolated farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone |
| Cultural Interests | Recreation |

Table 10: Moorland Slopes and Cloughs - Landscape management actions

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Because of poor soils, this is a landscape with widespread patches of semi-natural vegetation, usually comprising a mixture of heather moorland, with areas of purple moor grass and bilberry, or acid grassland.</p> <p>Owing to its elevation and poor quality soils, this is a very marginal agricultural landscape used primarily as rough grazing.</p> <p>Management actions are geared towards enhancing biodiversity and the management and enhancement of existing woodland</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The wet soils, exposure and open grazing on these moorland slopes restrict tree growth. However, scattered trees and scrub sometimes occur on moorland slopes as at White Edge.</p> <p>Plantation woodlands can sometimes be found on the moorland slopes, such as Stanage Plantation. Bunkers Hill Wood is a plantation woodland dating from the early 18th century that was associated with Chatsworth's former deer park.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>M</u>manage and enhance woodlands, and <u>M</u>manage and enhance plantation woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Because of poor soils, this is a landscape with widespread patches of semi-natural vegetation, usually comprising a mixture of heather moorland, with areas of purple moor grass and bilberry, or acid grassland.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Ecreate, extend and link areas of heath and create, extend and link areas of heath.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | Surface water drainage is often impeded by the formation of a thin ironpan and in less steeply sloping areas the soils can have a wet peaty surface horizon |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>This is a sparsely settled landscape with very occasional buildings, including Bolehill Lodge, and isolated gritstone farmsteads, and cottages or inns, such as the Peacock Inn above Owler Bar, along historic transport routes as the only forms of settlement. Some of these date from the medieval period. There are some field barns and stock pens within the landscape, associated with sheep farming and constructed from the local Millstone Grit.</p> <p>Although very sparsely settled there is more settlement on the eastern than the western slopes of the Eastern Moors.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>This is a sloping landscape that is strongly influenced by the underlying Millstone Grit geology and defined by steep upper slopes and edges that fringe the open moorland, such as at Burbage and Stanage Edges.</p> <p>There are outcrops of gritstone, most notably where it forms distinct edges with precipitous rock faces and boulder strewn slopes.</p> <p>The Millstone Grit is interspersed with beds of softer shales which erode to leave the upstanding gritstone edges and sloping land. On the east of the moors the coal measures influence this landscape character type, particularly below Ramsley Moor and Blacka Hill.</p> <p>Historically, quarrying would have been a major activity to the west, with coal mining on the eastern side of the moors and on some edges in the west. Quarried stone would have been used for millstones, pulpstones, grindstones, and as a building resource, both for blocks and detailing, such as lintels.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Protect and maintain cultural heritage resources.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | <p>Several fast-flowing streams draining the moorlands above have incised into the slopes where they descend into the Derwent Valley to the west, forming short side valleys as at Burbage Brook and Upper Hurst Brook.</p> <p>Surface water drainage is often impeded by the formation of a thin ironpan and in less steeply sloping areas the soils can have a wet peaty surface horizon.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.5 Open Moors (Derwent Valley)

Open Moors in Derwent Valley sits within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 53: South West Peak.

An open rolling moor and heathland landscape associated with gritstone summits. This is an unsettled landscape with wide views and a sense of remoteness and space.

The Open Moors are to be found on the highest land within the Derwent Valley character area.

They are found at the tops of three gritstone hills: two in the north at Abney and Offerton and Eyam whilst the third is found near Birchover.

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling gritstone summits;
- Thin impoverished soils over gritstone bedrock;
- Unenclosed heather moor extensively grazed by sheep;
- Patches of secondary birch woodland and bracken;
- Wide views to distant hilltops;
- Scattered rock outcrops and tors; and
- Extensive archaeological evidence from prehistoric and later activity.

Table 11: Open Moors - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Open Moors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unenclosed heather moor extensively grazed by sheep; • Wide views to distant hilltops; and • Scattered rock outcrops and tors. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 12: Open Moors - Landscape character attributes

| Open Moors | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Treeless |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Treeless |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | None |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Drystone walls |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | Monuments such as stone circles, barrows, ring cairns and standing stones. |

Table 13: Open Moors - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Due to poor soils and vegetation, the land has low agricultural value and rough grazing predominates with extensive grazing by sheep.</p> <p>Management actions are based around the creation/enhancement of heath and moorland habitats however, SEO 2 seeks to increase ecological network and improve biodiversity as part of NCA 51: Dark Peak as part of the overarching management strategy</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>In places, on the steeper slopes around the edges of the moors, some bracken is found, elsewhere, for example on Stanton Moor, birch woodland has developed.</p> <p>On Abney, Eyam and Offerton Moors this is generally an open, treeless landscape with expansive views owing to the elevation: historical grazing pressures and climate have inhibited tree growth. By contrast, on Stanton Moor, there are extensive areas of mature and secondary birch woodland interspersed with oaks.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Impoverished, shallow soils over gritstone bedrock predominate, sometimes with a peaty surface layer. This gives rise to extensive, dry moorland or heath habitat with heather as the dominant species; rocks and boulders are a feature locally. Where areas of the moor have been</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | grazed, grazing tolerant shrubs such as bilberry, crowberry and grasses are more dominant. Management strategy is to create, extend and link areas of heath/moor. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | Impoverished, shallow soils over gritstone bedrock predominate, sometimes with a peaty surface layer. This gives rise to extensive, dry moorland or heath habitat with heather as the dominant species; rocks and boulders are a feature locally. Where areas of the moor have been grazed, grazing tolerant shrubs such as bilberry, crowberry and grasses are more dominant. Management strategy is to create, extend and link areas of heath/moor. Braided hollow-ways, often deeply eroded into the land, can be seen running across the moorlands, especially across Eyam Moor. These gave local access to commons, quarries and mines and linked settlements to the main packhorse routes to Sheffield and Chesterfield. Large parts of the open moorland are open access land. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | Although now an unsettled landscape, there is much evidence of later prehistoric settlement and monuments, particularly on Offerton Moor, Highlow Bank and Eyam Moor. These are features which are more commonly found on the Eastern Moors. These include field boundaries and clearance cairns around farmstead sites, and monuments such as stone circles, barrows, ring cairns and standing stones. Transport is a limited feature of this landscape character type. This enhances the sense of remoteness because of the absence of roads running through the landscape and the need to access the area on foot. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | On Stanton Moor there are extensive relict gritstone quarries dating from the 18th to 20th centuries. Braided hollow-ways, often deeply eroded into the land, can be seen running across the moorlands, especially across Eyam Moor. These gave local access to commons, quarries and mines and linked settlements to the main packhorse routes to Sheffield and Chesterfield. Management strategy is to Develop appropriate landscapes from mineral workings. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

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Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.6 Open Moors (Eastern Moors)

Open Moors in Eastern Moors sits within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 53: South West Peak.

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

An open, undulating gritstone moor and heathland landscape with mineral soils and shallow blanket peat covered by heather moorland and grass moor. This is an unsettled landscape with wide views to distant surrounding hills and valleys and a sense of remoteness and space.

This is a visually prominent landscape which covers a large area of the Eastern Moors, with heather moorland and localised thick blanket peat such as at Totley Moss and Leash Fen.

Key Characteristics:

- Undulating unsettled gritstone summits;
- Thin impoverished soils with some deposits of peat;
- Extensive archaeological evidence from prehistoric and later activity;
- Unenclosed heather and grass moorland, with birch and willow scrub locally; and
- Large gritstone edges, scattered rock outcrops and tors.

Table 14: Open Moors - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Open Moors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much of the open moorland is open access land and only accessible on foot; • This is generally an open, treeless landscape with expansive views over the adjacent valleys; and • Undulating unsettled gritstone summits. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 15: Open Moors - Landscape character attributes

| Open Moors | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Treeless |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Treeless |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | None |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Drystone walls |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | Memorial to the Duke of Wellington & Nelson |

Table 16: Open Moors - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This landscape generally has a low agricultural value being used predominantly for rough grazing, and in places grouse rearing. Areas of heather moorland are maintained through regimes of cutting, burning and grazing by sheep and sometimes cattle.</p> <p>No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, SEO 2 and 3 seek to enhance grassland habitats within NCA 51: Dark Peak as part of the overarching management strategy</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>This is generally an open, treeless landscape with expansive views over the adjacent valleys. Historic grazing pressures and climate have inhibited tree growth.</p> <p>There are some localised patches of birch and willow scrub on lower lying moors. There are also a number of localised plantation woodlands, possibly associated with past industrial needs. Sheffield Plantation, on the western edge of the area near to Longshaw Lodge, was planted prior to 1840 and established by the Sheffield Planting Company. Other woodland, as on Ramsley Moor, Birchen Edge and Gardom's Edge, is not planted but the result of natural regeneration from seed sources on lower adjacent ground.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Mmanage and enhance plantation woodlands, and Mmanage the extent of birch scrub to maintain a diverse landscape mosaic.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Much of this landscape is covered by dwarf shrub heath dominated by heather but including variable quantities</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>of crowberry, cowberry and bilberry, particularly on more mineralised soils where the peat is thinner. Here, past grazing and burning management mean that heather tends to be the dominant species on the moorland. Where the peat is wetter, other species such as cottongrass and purple moor grass are more prevalent.</p> <p>Areas of heather moorland are maintained through regimes of cutting, burning and grazing by sheep and sometimes cattle.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Encourage diverse approaches to moorland management and Create, extend and link areas of heath.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity: SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Much of this landscape is covered by dwarf shrub heath dominated by heather but including variable quantities of crowberry, cowberry and bilberry, particularly on more mineralised soils where the peat is thinner. Here, past grazing and burning management mean that heather tends to be the dominant species on the moorland. Where the peat is wetter, other species such as cottongrass and purple moor grass are more prevalent.</p> <p>Areas of heather moorland are maintained through regimes of cutting, burning and grazing by sheep and sometimes cattle.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Encourage diverse approaches to moorland management, and Create, extend, and link areas of heath.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>This is a largely unsettled landscape with built features existing only locally, often as infrastructure for shooting and stock management. Some are simple livestock barns, ruined shooting cabins and gamekeepers' lodges; but Longshaw Lodge is exceptional, built as a comfortable shooting lodge by the Duke of Rutland to offer hospitality to guests. A similar example of guest accommodation is hidden away in plantations above Redmires Reservoirs at Stannage Lodge. Another atypical building is the reservoir keeper's lodge next to the old Barbrook Reservoir. There is also a memorial to the Duke of Wellington, adjacent to</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | Baslow Edge, matched by another to Nelson on Birchin Edge, both above Baslow, erected in 1866. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | To the south and, more significantly, in the eastern parts of the area the Yorkshire Coal Measures overlie this gritstone bedrock. Historically this landscape would have supported a range of industrial processes including coal mining, quarrying and bole hearths for smelting lead. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history. Flushes and bogs associated with headwater basins ('sitches' or 'sicks') and moorland streambanks often support a rich flora with a number of local species typically rare or absent in the higher Dark Peak. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.7 Open Moors (South West Peak)

Open Moors in South West Peak sits within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 53: South West Peak.

An open, rolling moorland landscape associated with high gritstone hill summits and broad upland basins. This is a wild, unsettled landscape with extensive areas of blanket bog and patches of dry heath. There are wide views across these moorlands and to surrounding hills. The moorland is crossed by historic transport routes.

This landscape character type occurs in extensive tracts on the highest hill summits and broad upland basins of the South West Peak, including Axe Edge Moor, Shining Tor, Combs Moss and Swallow Moss.

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling hill summits extending to rounded ridges;
- Extensive deposits of blanket bog and some thinner peaty mineral soils;
- Unenclosed heather moorland extensively grazed by sheep;
- Wide views to distant hilltops;
- Historic transport routes, including packhorse tracks and turnpike roads; and
- Coal mining remains.

Table 17: Open Moors - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Open Moors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a landscape of high undulating moorland summits; Extensive relics of past coal mining exist on Combs Moss, Goyt's Moss and west of Axe Edge; and Unenclosed heather moorland extensively grazed by sheep. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 18: Open Moors - Landscape character attributes

| Open Moors | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Treeless |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Treeless |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | None |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Drystone walls (occasional) |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled (occasional roadside dwelling) |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone with stone |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 19: Open Moors - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This is a rough grazing landscape that supports extensive stock rearing.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>E</u>nhance and restore moorland landscapes, and <u>E</u>ncourage diverse approaches to moorland management.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Woodland and Forest | w | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>This is mostly an open, treeless landscape. There are some patches of scrub encroaching on the open moorland which tends to be dominated by birch, grey willow and some rowan.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>This landscape is dominated by wild, unenclosed heath and blanket mire. Dwarf shrub heath dominated by heather and bilberry, together with cottongrass blanket mire, provide habitat for the curlew and many other upland birds.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Parts of the moorland are managed for shooting through a combination of regular burning and low level grazing which leads to a dominance of heather.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>E</u>nhance and restore moorland landscapes, and <u>E</u>ncourage diverse approaches to moorland management.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Urban | u | No | This is a largely unsettled landscape, except for occasional isolated roadside dwellings or inns. These are robust buildings constructed of local gritstone with stone slate roofs. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Extensive relics of past coal mining exist on Combs Moss, Goyt's Moss and west of Axe Edge. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.8 Riverside Meadows (Dark Peak Western Fringe)

Riverside Meadows in Dark Peak Western Fringe sits largely within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 52: White Peak and NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands.

A small scale pastoral landscape characterised by a meandering river channel in a flat alluvial floodplain. Views are often tightly framed by lines of riverside trees. Patches of wetland vegetation are a distinctive feature associated with the river channel.

This landscape character type exists in two locations within this fringe landscape along the River Etherow and further south along the River Goyt.

Key Characteristics:

- A flat alluvial river corridor;
- Meandering river channel with shingle beds and marginal vegetation;
- Seasonally waterlogged alluvial soils;
- Grazing meadows, often with patches of wet grassland; and
- Dense waterside and scattered hedgerow trees.

Table 20: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Riverside Meadows | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meandering river channel with shingle beds and marginal vegetation; • This landscape character type exists in two locations within this fringe landscape along the River Etherow and further south along the River Goyt; • Grazing meadows, often with patches of wet grassland; and • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 21: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Semi-improved grassland |
| Woodland Character | Densely lined riverine |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Alder and Willow |
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled (occasional farmstead) |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | The Bugsworth Canal Basin |

Table 22: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This is a pastoral landscape with permanent pasture dominating due to heavy soils and seasonal waterlogging. There is some semi-improved grassland. In the past, land uses have been more industrial, the fast flowing rivers were used to power industry.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Mmanage and enhance semi-natural grassland and wetland landscapes, and Mmanage and enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The river banks are densely lined with alder and some willow. This creates an intimate landscape where views are filtered by watercourse trees and framed by the adjacent wooded slopes. In places there are small copses of willow carr and poplars.</p> <p>Generally, small fields are bound by mixed species thorn dominated hedgerows creating a sense of enclosure adjacent to the river; the presence of riverside trees enhances this sense of enclosure.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | Management strategy is to M manage and enhance woodlands, and C create new native broadleaved woodland. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity: SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources; SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | The floodplain is characterised by gleyed soils that are either continuously or seasonally waterlogged. The river enhances the fertility of the soil when flood water deposits nutrients that replenish the wet soils. The meadows are either seasonally or permanently wet, creating wet pastures which support soft rush and some sedges. Management strategy is to M manage and enhance semi-natural grassland and wetland landscapes. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | In the past, land uses have been more industrial, the fast flowing rivers were used to power industry. Away from the urban areas on the narrow floodplain some mills still survive and are often converted to other uses, while other mills have been demolished and only remnant mill ponds and races give evidence of this past industry in this tranquil landscape. This is a largely unsettled landscape where the wet ground and risk of flooding make development difficult. There are occasional gritstone farmsteads on the higher ground above the valley bottoms and several sites of former mills. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | The river enhances the fertility of the soil when flood water deposits nutrients that replenish the wet soils. The meadows are either seasonally or permanently wet, creating wet pastures which support soft rush and some sedges. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | This landscape character type exists in two locations within this fringe landscape along the River Etherow and further south along the River Goyt. Management strategy is to manage and enhance semi-natural grassland and wetland landscapes. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.9 Riverside Meadows (Derbyshire Peak Fringe)

Riverside Meadows in Dark Peak Western Fringe sits largely within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 52: White Peak and NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands.

This is a pastoral landscape characterised by a meandering river channel in a flat alluvial floodplain. Views are often tightly framed by lines of riverside trees. Patches of wetland vegetation are a distinctive feature associated with the river channel.

Riverside Meadows occur on all the valley bottom areas of the Derbyshire Peak Fringe including the lower valley of the River Dove and those at Bradbourne and Bletch Brooks.

Key Characteristics:

- A flat alluvial river corridor;
- Meandering river channel with shingle beds and marginal vegetation;
- Seasonally waterlogged alluvial soils;
- Grazing meadows, often with patches or extensive areas of wet grassland;
- Dense waterside and scattered hedgerow trees; and
- Regular pattern of small to medium sized fields divided by hedges.

Table 23: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Riverside Meadows | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riverside Meadows occur on all the valley bottom areas of the Derbyshire Peak Fringe including the lower valley of the River Dove and those at Bradbourne and Bletch Brooks; • Meandering river channel with shingle beds and marginal vegetation; and • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 24: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | N/A |
| Woodland Character | Extensive/Riverine |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Alder, Willow, Oak and Ash |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Hedgerow |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | Limestone, gritstone and stone |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 25: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Due to heavy soils and seasonal waterlogging the main land use in this character type is permanent pasture, grazed by cattle and sheep.</p> <p>Patches of wet grassland are a feature throughout much of this landscape.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>e</u>Enhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Tree cover is extensive throughout the landscape. It is made up of densely scattered riverside trees, primarily of alder and willow, with scattered hedgerow trees of oak and ash across the floodplain. In places there are small copses of willow carr.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>M</u>manage and enhance woodlands, <u>M</u>manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees, and <u>C</u>create new native broadleaved woodland.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>In places the rivers have cut through the harder gritstone, resulting in a much narrower alluvial floodplain defined by steeper valley sides. This is particularly noticeable in part of the Dove Valley and the lower stretch of the Bradbourne Brook. As a result, the width of the floodplain can vary from more than half a kilometre to less than 50 metres at its narrowest point.</p> <p>Where the floodplain retains flood water for long periods of time extensive areas of wetland and marshy riverside vegetation can sometimes be found and support specialist species including ragged robin, common marsh bedstraw and occasionally the common spotted orchid.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Mmanage and enhance wetland landscapes, and Ccreate, expand and link wetland landscapes.</p> <p>The priority is to restore the diversity of the river corridor landscape and manage it to provide flood water storage and help prevent flooding elsewhere along the river corridor.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Historically settlement did not develop on floodplains, due to possible flooding risks. However, in parts of the Dove Valley and Bletch Brook areas the underlying geology of shales gives rise to gently sloping land with reduced flood risk enabling the establishment of some isolated farmsteads.</p> <p>In addition to isolated scattered farmsteads, parts of the villages of Fenny Bentley and Mapleton have developed on the edge of the floodplain.</p> <p>Buildings are predominantly a limestone rubble construction with gritstone detailing and stone slate roofs. Modern development can be found in isolated locations.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>A key feature of this landscape is the flat alluvial floodplain across which the rivers meander. These rivers have developed on a number of different geological formations.</p> <p>In places the rivers have cut through the harder gritstone, resulting in a much narrower alluvial floodplain defined by steeper valley sides. This is</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>particularly noticeable in part of the Dove Valley and the lower stretch of the Bradbourne Brook. As a result the width of the floodplain can vary from more than half a kilometre to less than 50 metres at its narrowest point.</p> <p>Management strategy is to mManage and enhance wetland landscapes, and Ccreate, expand and link wetland landscapes.</p> <p>The priority is to restore the diversity of the river corridor landscape and manage it to provide flood water storage and help prevent flooding elsewhere along the river corridor.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.10 Riverside Meadows (Derwent Valley)

Riverside Meadows in Dark Peak Western Fringe sits largely within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 52: White Peak and NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands.

This is a small-scale pastoral landscape characterised by a meandering river channel in a flat alluvial floodplain. Views are often tightly framed by lines of riverside trees. Patches of wetland vegetation are a distinctive feature associated with the floodplain.

The Riverside Meadows form a narrow continuous strip of floodplain, one to two fields wide, adjacent to the rivers. This landscape stretches from just below the Ladybower reservoir on the River Derwent in the north, includes Hope on the River Noe and Bakewell on the River Wye to the west, down to Matlock in the south.

Key Characteristics:

- A flat alluvial river corridor;
- Meandering river channel with shingle beds and marginal vegetation;
- Seasonally waterlogged alluvial soils;
- Grazing meadows, often with patches of wet grassland, marsh and fen;
- Dense waterside and scattered hedgerow trees;
- Regular pattern of small to medium sized fields divided by hedges; and
- Mills with mill races, weirs and ponds.

Table 26: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|---|
| Riverside Meadows | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meandering river channel with shingle beds and marginal vegetation; • Grazing meadows, often with patches of wet grassland, marsh and fen; • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. • Part of Chatsworth Park with its weir, mature trees and derelict mill sits within the floodplain; and • A key feature of this landscape is the flat alluvial floodplain across which the rivers |

| | |
|--|--|
| | Derwent and Wye meander as they flow downstream. |
|--|--|

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 27: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|---|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | N/A |
| Woodland Character | Riverine |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Alder, Willow, Oak and Ash |
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Hedgerow |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled (occasional farmsteads) |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, limestone and stone |
| Cultural Interests | Historic mills, mill races, ponds and weirs |

Table 28: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Because of heavy soils and seasonal waterlogging land use is permanent pasture, grazed by cattle and sheep.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>e</u>Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Although tree cover is relatively extensive throughout the landscape type, it is only a small percentage of the land cover but has a high visual impact. It is often confined to river banks which are densely lined with alder and some willow. This almost continuous belt of riverside trees creates an intimate landscape when combined with scattered hedgerow trees of oak and ash across the floodplain. In places there are small copses of willow carr and some poplars.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>M</u>manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Safeguard, manage, restore and enhance the large areas of open, expansive moorland and the internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soils and water resources;</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Some areas on the floodplain are permanently waterlogged and some wet hollows retain flood water for long periods of time. These have created linked patches of wetland and marshy riverside vegetation associated with the meandering river although much of the land has been improved.</p> <p>The priority is therefore to restore the diversity of the river corridor landscape and manage the landscape to provide flood water storage.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Part of Chatsworth Park with its weir, mature trees and derelict mill sits within the floodplain. A series of historic mills, mill races, ponds and weirs are also found along the rivers.</p> <p>This is mainly an unsettled landscape with occasional farmsteads and some modern development. Historically, settlement would have been restricted</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>on the floodplain due to seasonal flooding, but a series of local water-powered flour mills were built, as at Bakewell and Ashford, in the medieval period. This was supplemented during the Industrial Revolution with large textile mills at Bakewell, Calver and Bamford, although these have now been converted into apartments modern industry or other uses.</p> <p>Where there is settlement, it is usually farmsteads, and buildings are predominantly gritstone with stone slate roofs. In places there are limestone rubble constructed buildings with blue slate roof.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Some areas on the floodplain are permanently waterlogged and some wet hollows retain flood water for long periods of time. These have created linked patches of wetland and marshy riverside vegetation associated with the meandering river although much of the land has been improved.</p> <p>The priority is therefore to restore the diversity of the river corridor landscape and manage the landscape to provide flood water storage.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.11 Riverside Meadows (South West Peak)

Riverside Meadows in Dark Peak Western Fringe sits largely within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 52: White Peak and NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands.

This is a pastoral landscape characterised by a meandering river channel in a flat alluvial floodplain. Views are often tightly framed by lines of riverside trees and adjacent wooded slopes. Patches of wetland vegetation are a distinctive feature associated with the river channel.

This landscape character type is very limited in extent, occurring only as narrow bands along the lower reaches of the River Goyt and the River Dane.

Key Characteristics:

- A flat alluvial river corridor;
- Meandering river channel with shingle beds and marginal vegetation;
- Seasonally waterlogged alluvial soils;
- Grazing meadows, often with patches of wet grassland; and
- Dense waterside and scattered hedgerow trees.

Table 29: Riverside Meadows - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Riverside Meadows | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meandering river channel with shingle beds and marginal vegetation; • Grazing meadows, often with patches of wet grassland; and • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

Table 30: Riverside Meadows - Landscape character attributes

| Riverside Meadows | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Semi-improved grassland |
| Woodland Character | Well wooded |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Alder, Oak and Sycamore |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Hedgerows and Drystone walls |
| Settlement Character | Unsettled |
| Traditional Materials | N/A |
| Cultural Interests | Danebridge |

Table 31: Riverside Meadows - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This is a pastoral landscape with improved permanent pasture dominating. There is some semi-improved grassland.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Enhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>This is a well wooded landscape with dense streamside trees and small patches of wet woodland which are dominated by alder with some willow.</p> <p>River banks are densely lined with alder, together with some oak and sycamore. This creates an intimate landscape where views are filtered by watercourse trees and framed by the adjacent wooded slopes.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Management strategy is to <u>P</u> rotect historic hedgerows, and <u>m</u> anage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Beside the river channel the floodplain is underlain by alluvial mud lying over gravels. There are hollows in the floodplain reflecting the past course of the river.</p> <p>The floodplain is characterised by gleyed soils, that are either continuously or seasonally waterlogged, giving rise to wet pastures which support soft rush, Yorkshire fog grass and some sedges.</p> <p>The priority is to protect the diversity of the river corridor landscape and manage the landscape to provide flood water storage, helping prevent flooding elsewhere along the river corridor.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | This is an unsettled landscape because of the wet nature of the soils and the risk of flooding. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Beside the river channel the floodplain is underlain by alluvial mud lying over gravels. There are hollows in the floodplain reflecting the past course of the river.</p> <p>The floodplain is characterised by gleyed soils, that are either continuously or seasonally waterlogged, giving rise to wet pastures which support soft rush, Yorkshire fog grass and some sedges.</p> <p>The priority is to protect the diversity of the river corridor landscape and manage the landscape to provide flood water storage, helping prevent flooding elsewhere along the river corridor.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.12 Slopes and Valleys With Woodland (Derbyshire Peak Fringe)

Riverside Meadows in Dark Peak Western Fringe sits largely within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 52: White Peak, NCA 53: South West Peak and NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands.

An undulating, in places steeply sloping, topography with an interlocking pattern of fields and blocks of woodland both ancient and secondary. There are patches of semi-improved and acid grasslands on steeper slopes with permanent pasture in small fields.

This landscape is found in two locations. In the south it is closely associated with the steep valley sides of the River Dove and its tributary the Bradbourne and Bletch Brook. In the east the landscape forms a series of interlinked areas along the eastern fringe of the Peak District and creates a natural border between the Peak District and the more urban landscapes to the east.

Key Characteristics:

- Undulating, in places steeply sloping, topography;
- Irregular blocks of ancient and secondary woodland;
- Patches of semi-improved and acid grassland and bracken;
- Permanent pasture in small fields enclosed by hedgerows;
- Narrow winding, often sunken lanes;
- Scattered gritstone farms and loose clusters of dwellings; and
- Remains of historic coal mining, smelting and other industrial sites.

Table 32: Slopes and Valleys With Woodland - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Slopes and Valleys With Woodland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent pasture in small fields enclosed by hedgerows; • Remains of historic coal mining, smelting and other industrial sites; • Patches of semi-improved and acid grassland; and • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 33: Slopes and Valleys With Woodland - Landscape character attributes

| Slopes and Valleys With Woodland | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | N/A |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small-medium woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Oak-birch with hazel, Aash and Aalder |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows and Gritstone walls |
| Settlement Character | Hamlets and scattered farmsteads |

| Slopes and Valleys With Woodland | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, Stone tile and Welsh slate |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 34: Slopes and Valleys With Woodland - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>There is widespread pasture in this landscape, including some unimproved grassland. Wetter grasslands support patches of soft rush.</p> <p>Higher up in this landscape character type grassland tends to be acidic and can support patches of bilberry and gorse along with species such as harebell and tormentil.</p> <p>This is a well wooded pastoral landscape and land use is characterised by permanent pasture for sheep and cattle. As the landscape rises up to higher areas the permanent pastures tend to give way to rough grazing land.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>E</u>nhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Around Fenny Bentley the woodland tends to be associated with the lower slopes. Lower woodlands can have a wet association and support more ash and alder than upland woods. Ground flora also varies to favour more hydrophilic species including meadowsweet and marsh marigold.</p> <p>This landscape has a strongly wooded character with extensive broadleaved semi-natural woodland, including upland oak wood on the higher slopes. There are patches of wet woodland with alder in flushes. There are some 20th century plantation woodlands, usually coniferous, and there are tree groups around settlements, providing shelter to properties.</p> <p>To the west of Chesterfield many of the woodlands were managed to maximise fuel production for industry and were coppiced, particularly in the 16th to 18th centuries to provide white coal (kiln dried wood) and charcoal. There is significant deciduous woodland cover, made up of some ancient semi-natural woodland interlinked with more recent woodlands. These woodlands often support a good ground flora</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | resource including bluebells and honeysuckle. Oak woodland predominates, supporting both pedunculate oak and sessile oak with other species including birch, rowan, holly and hazel. Management strategy is to P rotect and maintain drystone walls, hedgerows and historical enclosure patterns, M anage and enhance woodlands, M anage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees and trees and create new native broadleaved woodland. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity: SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | Yes | No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, this is likely to have potential for change as this LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | Between Thorpe and Bradbourne the steep slopes have only a few scattered gritstone-built farmsteads and dwellings with stone slate roofs. The farmsteads on the slopes are probably post-medieval in date and part of a predominantly nucleated settlement pattern with the village sited on nearby better land. Limestone from the adjacent White Peak is the common building material around Parwich. West of Chesterfield and Dronfield settlement varies, consisting of scattered farmsteads mixed with villages and hamlets. Some of the scattered farmsteads are historic monastic granges in origin such as at Harewood. Management strategy is to m anage the historical patterns of development. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | To the south of Bradbourne and Tissington the geology consists of interbedded limestone and shales from the Widmerpool formation giving way to the Bowland Shale group, a combination of shales, siltstone and sandstone. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | West of Chesterfield and Dronfield the landscape is shaped by the underlying Millstone Grit and Coal Measures giving rise to undulating steep slopes. North of Holymoorside the remains of old industries, are still evident in places, including mining remains, smelting hearths and mills. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | This is a landscape with a prominent sloping topography, dissected by stream valleys. No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, this is likely to have potential for change as this LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.13 Slopes and Valleys With Woodland (Derwent Valley)

Slopes and Valleys with Woodlands in Derwent Valley sits largely within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 52: White Peak, NCA 53: South West Peak and NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands.

A pastoral landscape with interlocking blocks of ancient and secondary woodland. On the tops of steeper slopes gritstone edges with boulder slopes below are a prominent feature and there are patches of semi-improved and acid grasslands with bracken on steeper slopes.

Wooded slopes and side valleys can be found on most of the steep gritstone slopes throughout the Derwent Valley character area. They are most common on the west facing slopes that form the eastern edge of the Derwent Valley and run in a continuous strip from the Derwent reservoirs to Matlock. They are also found below Stanton, Eyam and Abney Moors. In the latter area they include Abney and Bretton Clough.

Key Characteristics:

- A steeply sloping landform with gritstone edges characterising the tops of steeper slopes;
- Patches and extensive areas of semi-improved and acid grasslands with patches of bracken and gorse;
- Irregular blocks of ancient and secondary woodland;
- Permanent pasture in small fields enclosed by hedges and gritstone walls;
- Narrow winding, often sunken lanes; and
- Scattered gritstone farmsteads and loose clusters of dwellings.⁷

Table 35: Slopes and Valleys With Woodland - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Slopes and Valleys With Woodland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a landscape with a prominent, sloping topography on the edge of the Eastern Moors and around the series of outlying gritstone uplands and ridges within the Derwent Valley character area; • Irregular blocks of ancient and secondary woodland; and • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 36: Slopes and Valleys With Woodland - Landscape character attributes

| Slopes and Valleys With Woodland | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Semi-improved pasture/Acid grassland |
| Other Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small-medium woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Ash and oak |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Hedgerows and Gritstone walls |
| Settlement Character | Scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone and Stone slate |
| Cultural Interests | Gardom's and Froggatt Edges |

Table 37: Slopes and Valleys With Woodland - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>There are frequent fields of semi-improved and acid grasslands, with bracken and gorse on steeper slopes. Fields of improved grassland are found on the easily accessible areas.</p> <p>The combination of steep, often boulder strewn, slopes and poor soils mean that much of this land has never been suitable for arable or intensive pastoral farming: woodland and rough grazing has dominated the landscape for centuries. Occasionally, due to land ownership and better ground conditions, there are a few improved fields where the intensity of use increases.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>e</u>Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>Main tree species are ash and oak with a few blocks of coniferous woodland planted on estate land. There is often good woodland ground flora reflecting continuous woodland cover for hundreds of years.</p> <p>Large interlocking, in places extensive, blocks of woodland and mature boundary trees are a continuous feature throughout this landscape type.</p> <p>Woodland is predominantly secondary and ancient with some blocks of coniferous plantation. There is evidence that these woodlands were important for high quality timber and as coppiced woodland for white coal (kiln dried wood), used for lead smelting from the 16th to 18th centuries.</p> <p>The influence of the estates on the wooded slopes is extensive; much is still owned by Chatsworth, Haddon and Stanton estates. Interlocking blocks combine with the sloping landform to frame views within this landscape character type.</p> <p>Management strategy is to protect historic parkland landscapes, protect historic hedgerows, manage and enhance woodlands, manage and enhance plantation woodlands, manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees, manage the extent of birch scrub to maintain a diverse landscape mosaic and create new native broadleaved woodland.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, this is likely to have potential for change as this LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Settlement generally consists of scattered or isolated gritstone farms and dwellings with stone slate roofs. Some of the farmsteads have medieval origins, while others were built later; all have been rebuilt in stone from the 17th century onwards.</p> <p>To the south, around Upper Hackney, Darley Hillside and Northwood, there is a more dense and clustered pattern of hamlets on the slopes with wayside</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>dwelling and scattered farms, together with 20th century housing.</p> <p>Management strategy is to protect historic drystone walls, Manage the built environment to enhance landscape character.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>Sometimes, along the upper edge of the valley side, gritstone outcrops form a series of vertical cliff-like faces, known as edges. Some of these edges have been modified by quarrying; this occurs particularly between Chatsworth and Hathersage.</p> <p>Locally the failure of the interbedded shales has given rise to characteristic landslip landscapes, for example in Bretton Clough. On Eyam and Bradwell Edge the shales overlie limestone that contain a series of mineral veins.</p> <p>Many of the edges, in particular Gardom's and Froggatt Edges, have relict gritstone quarries that produced millstones and other items from the medieval period to the 19th and 20th centuries.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage historic mineral landscapes.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Small streams and wet flushes often occur at the junction of shales and gritstone.</p> <p>No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, this is likely to have potential for change as this LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.14 Slopes and Valleys With Woodland (South West Peak)

Slopes and Valleys with Woodlands in Derwent Valley sits largely within NCA 51: Dark Peak, but also sits in NCA 52: White Peak, NCA 53: South West Peak and NCA 68: Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands.

This is a pastoral landscape with a varied undulating topography of steep slopes, low ridges and incised valleys. Blocks of woodland are a characteristic feature of this landscape, together with patches of acid grassland and bracken on steeper slopes and higher ground. This is an area of traditional dispersed settlement with probable ancient origins. Views to lower ground are framed by woodlands and valley sides.

This landscape covers extensive tracts of the western slopes of the South West Peak, in the landscapes rising above Macclesfield and Leek.

Key Characteristics:

- Undulating topography with incised valleys and rounded summits;
- Patches of acid grassland on steeper slopes;
- Irregular blocks of ancient woodland along cloughs and valley sides;
- Permanent pasture in fields enclosed by hedgerows and trees;
- Narrow winding, often sunken lanes;
- Scattered farms and loose clusters of dwellings;

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

- Variable shaped, small to medium sized fields of various dates; and
- Coal mining remains.

Table 38: Slopes and Valleys With Woodland - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Slopes and Valleys With Woodland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is ornamental parkland in this landscape at Lyme Park and Swythamley Hall; • This landscape has a strongly wooded character which creates filtered views through the landscape; • Coal mining remains; • Irregular blocks of ancient woodland along cloughs and valley sides; and • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 39: Slopes and Valleys With Woodland - Landscape character attributes

| Slopes and Valleys With Woodland | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | N/A |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered small-medium woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Oak, Birch, Rowan, Hazel and Alder |
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlements |
| Boundary Type | Scattered trees/Drystone walls |
| Settlement Character | Farmsteads and occasional large houses |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, stone slates |
| Cultural Interests | Lyme Park |

Table 40: Slopes and Valleys With Woodland - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>There is unimproved grassland which can provide for a range of herbs; in places the grassland is wet, containing soft rush.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>This is a pastoral landscape dominated by stock rearing for sheep and cattle. Due to the often steep topography, the land is difficult to reseed so is usually managed as permanent pasture. On higher ground and on the steepest slopes there are areas of rough grazing.</p> <p>Management strategy is to eEnhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The oak woodland on the slopes has both sessile and pedunculate oak, mixed with downy and silver birch, holly, rowan and hazel. The acid soil supports bracken, wavy hair-grass and locally bilberry as well as an abundance of ferns. There are patches of alder dominated wet woodland along streams and in wet hollows.</p> <p>This landscape has a strongly wooded character which creates filtered views through the landscape. There are woodland blocks along cloughs and slopes, which combine with scattered trees along field boundaries and watercourses and with tree groups around settlements.</p> <p>A lot of the woodlands have presumably existed for many hundreds of years and may have been managed by coppicing to provide wood and charcoal. Woodland blocks, belts and specimens are a notable feature of parkland landscapes such as at Lyme Park. There are large 20th century plantation woodlands, including extensive areas of coniferous woodland at Macclesfield Forest.</p> <p>Management strategy is to pProtect historic hedgerows, pProtect historic parkland landscapes, mManage and enhance woodlands, Mmanage and enhance clough woodlands, mManage and enhance plantation woodlands, mManage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees, Ccreate new native broadleaved woodland, and cCreate clough woods.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character: and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>There are relic patches of dry heath which support heather, bilberry and gorse with some bracken on the steeper slopes.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | There is unimproved grassland which can provide for a range of herbs; in places the grassland is wet, containing soft rush. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Settlement is very dispersed in this landscape consisting of farmsteads and occasional large houses. In places there are loose clusters of farms and cottages, sometimes more nucleated around a road junction.</p> <p>This is a generally peaceful landscape with small winding lanes which are often sunken on slopes. The lanes are supplemented by a network of footpaths that link dispersed farmsteads.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage the dispersed and historic settlement patterns of development.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>The lower ground is underlain by shale with some limestone interbedded and there are also some outcrops of Coal Measures.</p> <p>Important coal mining and quarrying remains are restricted to Kerridge to the south east of Bollington.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>There are patches of alder dominated wet woodland along streams and in wet hollows. On flushed slopes the wet ground often has a layer of mosses, sedges, horsetails and ferns.</p> <p>No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, this is likely to have potential for change as this LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.15 Valley Farmlands with Villages (Derwent Valley)

Slopes and Valleys with Woodlands in Derwent Valley sits largely within NCA 51: Dark Peak and also sits in NCA 52: White Peak.

A settled pastoral landscape, often with a low lying topography associated with a network of streams and damp hollows. This is an enclosed landscape, with views filtered through scattered hedgerow and streamline trees. Gritstone-built villages with outlying farms and dwellings are set within small to medium fields that are often bound by hedgerows.

Valley Farmlands With Villages can be found throughout the Derwent Valley character area, the largest area being centred on Hope and Castleton. Other areas where this type occurs are Calver, Froggatt to Baslow, Over End, Great Longstone, Beeley, Two Dales and Harthill.

Key Characteristics:

- A low lying, gently undulating topography;
- Network of streams and localised damp hollows;
- Pastoral farmland enclosed by hedgerows and some drystone walls;
- Small to medium sized fields;
- Dense streamline and scattered hedgerow trees; and
- Gritstone villages and outlying farms with associated dwellings and field barns.

Table 41: Valley Farmlands with Villages - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Valley Farmlands with Villages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A low lying, gently undulating topography; • Pastoral farmland enclosed by hedgerows and some drystone walls; and • Network of streams and localised damp hollows. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 42: Valley Farmlands with Villages - Landscape character attributes

| Valley Farmlands with Villages | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | N/A |
| Woodland Character | Small woodland blocks |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Ash, Oak, Willow and Alder |
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | None |
| Boundary Type | Hedgerows and Gritstone walls |
| Settlement Character | Villages, hamlets and scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, stone and slate |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 43: Valley Farmlands with Villages - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>Largely improved reseeded grassland with isolated patches of semi-improved grassland and occasional</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>hay meadows. Seasonal waterlogging and wet flushes mean that soft rush can be found in places.</p> <p>Land use is determined by the heavy soils and permanent pasture dominates the landscape. There is a mixture of improved fields with a moderate to high intensity of usage for dairying and silage.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland and enhance the diversity of arable farmland.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Mixed hedges include hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel and holly as the main species. Ash and oak are the principle tree species, giving way to willow and alder in the wetter areas whilst on drier ground, bracken and birch can be found.</p> <p>Secondary planting of ancient woodland sites with broadleaved trees or conifers is common but the original ground flora of wood anemone and bluebells is still evident in places.</p> <p>The density of trees varies throughout this landscape. There is a mixture of mature hedgerow trees, mainly ash, oak and sycamore, as well as small blocks of woodland, both broadleaved and coniferous, which filter views. There are occasional isolated, discreet blocks of ancient semi-natural woodland.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Protect historic hedgerows, Manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees, and Create new native broadleaved woodland.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Seasonal waterlogging and wet flushes mean that soft rush can be found in places.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Priority is to seek opportunities to restore biodiversity. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>The modern manufacturing and ancillary buildings associated with cement works is a prominent atypical feature within the Hope Valley.</p> <p>The density of settlement varies over the landscape, but is predominantly a mixture of villages, hamlets and scattered farmsteads, many of which have medieval origins.</p> <p>Villages, including Castleton, Hope, Hathersage, Calver, Baslow and Beeley, are scattered through the valley.</p> <p>With the exception of some medieval churches, buildings are normally of 17th century and more commonly later date. Occasional simple stone field barns with stone slate roofs are found in field corners.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage the built environment to enhance landscape character.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

12.2.16 Valley Pastures with Industry (Dark Peak Western Fringe)

Valley Pastures with Industry in Dark Peak Western Fringe sits within NCA 51: Dark Peak.

A small scale, settled pastoral landscape on undulating lower valley slopes. There are filtered views through scattered hedgerows and dense streamside trees. Stone built terraced housing on lower slopes is associated with historic mills. There are dispersed gritstone farmsteads as well as small clusters of farms with associated dwellings. Pastoral farmland is bounded by hedgerows and drystone walls.

This landscape character type exists as a large area running from the north to the south of the Dark Peak Western Fringe running from Bleak Hey to Stalybridge and from Arnfield to Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Key Characteristics:

- A low lying undulating valley topography, rising towards adjacent higher ground;
- Network of streams and localised damp hollows with millponds and least;
- Pastoral farmland enclosed by hedgerows and drystone walls;
- Small to medium sized fields;
- Trees are dense along watercourses and scattered along hedgerows and around settlement;
- Dispersed settlement with isolated farmsteads and small clusters of dwellings;
- Stone built terraced housing associated with historic mills; and
- Narrow winding lanes, sunken on slopes.

Table 44: Valley Pastures with Industry - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Valley Pastures with Industry | <p>Pastoral farmland enclosed by hedgerows and drystone walls;</p> <p>There are reservoirs in this landscape, such as the Coombes Reservoir, the Bottoms Reservoir and the Dovestone Reservoir;</p> <p>There were once further railway branches in this landscape character type that have now closed, some now forming recreational routes such as the Sett Valley Trail; and</p> <p>LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3.</p> |
|-------------------------------|--|

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 45: Valley Pastures with Industry - Landscape character attributes

| Valley Pastures with Industry | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Semi-improved grassland |
| Woodland Character | Densely lined riverine |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Alder, Willow, Willow carr and Poplars |
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse | Dense |
| Amenity Trees | Scattered |
| Boundary Type | Hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Settled |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 46: Valley Pastures with Industry – Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.</p> <p>This is a pastoral landscape of cattle and sheep grazing. In some areas, agriculture is more intensive with dairying and stock rearing.</p> <p>An agricultural landscape with limited biodiversity value as much of the land is improved, although there are occasional, isolated patches of unimproved grassland which enhances biodiversity.</p> <p>Management strategy is to mManage and enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 4: Increase the extent of native woodland, scrub and trees, and manage existing tree cover to provide a range of benefits including helping to assimilate new infrastructure, restore lost habitats and landscape features, store carbon, reduce run-off and provide fuel, shelter and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Mixed species hedgerows provide an important habitat linking woodland and other habitats.</p> <p>Woodland exists as shelterbelts and often densely along streams and tributaries giving the impression of a well wooded landscape even though much farmland exists.</p> <p>There are scattered ancient woodlands throughout the character type such as around the western side of Shire Hill; these further contribute to the wooded nature of the landscape.</p> <p>Most woodlands are broadleaved and contain species such as oak, ash and sycamore. There is some coniferous plantation woodland such as around Dovestones Reservoir in the North of the area.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Protect and maintain drystone walls, hedgerows and historical enclosure patterns, Manage and enhance woodlands, and Create new native broadleaved woodland.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows, and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Improve opportunities for the enjoyment and understanding of the National Park landscape, and to experience the sense of escapism and inspiration offered by the wide, open moorlands, while also conserving the qualities of the landscape and its valuable historic, geological and wildlife features.</p> <p>In wetter fields there are rushy pastures which provide diversity as do the heath species such as heather and bilberry that are often located along verges.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Urban | u | No | <p>This is a settled landscape with distinctive gritstone mill settlements and dispersed outlying settlement. Beyond the urban centres, such as Glossop, New Mills and Whaley Bridge, there are three distinctive forms of settlement in the landscape: dispersed farmsteads, farmsteads clustered with other dwellings in hamlets, and terraces associated with historic mills.</p> <p>There are some industrial mills surviving in the valley bottoms, as for example around Birch Vale, Chinley and Uppermill.</p> <p>Areas such as Whaley Bridge and New Mills were also historically important for coal mining and the coal extracted was very important in the 19th and early 20th centuries to provide fuel for local manufacturing and industry.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>P</u>rotect and maintain features associated with the historic industrial character and manage the historical patterns of development.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | <p>Areas such as Whaley Bridge and New Mills were historically important for coal mining and the coal extracted was very important in the 19th and early 20th centuries to provide fuel for local manufacturing and industry.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>There are reservoirs in this landscape, such as the Coombes Reservoir, the Bottoms Reservoir and the Dovestone Reservoir.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>m</u>Manage and enhance landscape around reservoirs.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

13.0 NCA 52: White Peak

13.1 Key Characteristics

- Elevated, gently undulating limestone plateau with occasional knolls and crags, dissected by steeply cut dales and gorges with rock outcrops, screes and caves;
- Clear rivers, streams and springs in some dales; others are dry or run water only in winter;
- Steep dale sides with a mosaic of flower-rich limestone grassland, ash woodland and wildlife-rich scrub;

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

- Improved grassland for dairy and livestock farming dominates the plateau, punctuated by occasional dew ponds, narrow shelterbelts of broadleaved trees and small patches of rough grassland, meadow and heath;
- Grassland enclosed by limestone walls, with small narrow strip fields often of medieval origin around villages, and larger rectangular fields away from the villages;
- Nucleated villages and small towns connected by crest and valley roads;
- A mix of limestone and gritstone used as building materials and stone and Welsh slate for roofs. Widespread features of special archaeological and historical interest including Neolithic and bronze-age ritual monuments; and
- Many visible reminders of early industry, including historic limestone and lead workings, lime kilns and dramatic water mills from the 18th-century textile industry.

13.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 52: White Peak within DCC

13.2.1 Village Farmland on Shale Ridges (Derbyshire Peak Fringe)

Village Farmland on Shale Ridges in Derbyshire Peak Fringe sits within NCA 52: White Peak.

A small scale, settled pastoral landscape associated with gently rolling shale uplands, where views are typically filtered through scattered mature trees in field boundaries.

This landscape occurs on five discrete uplands in the south of the Derbyshire Peak Fringe, around Brassington and Bradbourne, at Kniveton, near Parwich, at Tissington and Thorpe, and to the west of the Dove at Blore in Staffordshire.

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling plateau summits;
- Pastoral farmland;
- Small to medium sized fields and strip fields, enclosed by hedgerows;
- Filtered views through scattered mature hedgerow trees;
- Clustered pattern of villages and scattered farms; and
- Buildings are a mixture of limestone and gritstone.

Table 47: Village Farmland on Shale Ridges – Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Village Farmland on Shale Ridges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A small area of this character type, north of the settlement of Thorpe, is open access land; • The former Tissington railway line is now an important recreational route for walking and cycling; and • Filtered views through scattered mature hedgerow trees. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 48: Village Farmland on Shale Ridges – Landscape character attributes

| Village Farmland on Shale Ridges | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | N/A |
| Woodland Character | Densely scattered |

| Village Farmland on Shale Ridges | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Ash, Oak and Alder |
| Hedgerow Trees | Densely scattered |
| Watercourse | n/a |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement & parkland |
| Boundary Type | Hedgerow trees |
| Settlement Character | Villages with scattered farms |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, Limestone and Stone slate |
| Cultural Interests | Tissington Hall |

Table 49: Village Farmland on Shale Ridges – Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities; and</p> <p>SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Permanent pasture dominates this landscape with a mixture of improved fields and occasional semi-improved fields.</p> <p>This is a largely pastoral landscape that has been improved and farmed for many years. The habitat network is relict with isolated patches of semi-improved grassland and occasional hay meadows. Hay meadows provide an important habitat for a range of grasses and flower species including oxeye daisy and knapweed.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>e</u>Enhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Safeguard the unique character and tranquillity of the limestone dales, and enhance their limestone grasslands, woodlands and scrub of European importance, to protect sense of place, water quality, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>This is an enclosed landscape where views are often filtered through densely scattered hedgerow trees in field boundaries. Tree species include ash and oak with some alder on wetter areas. There is an avenue of</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | lime trees along the main road to Tissington village, possibly associated with the estate influence on the local landscape here. Management strategy is to P rotect historic parkland landscapes, p rotect and maintain drystone walls, hedgerows and historical enclosure patterns, manage and enhance woodlands and manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Maintain and enhance the limestone plateau's pastoral landscape with its distinctive pattern of drystone walls, dew ponds, archaeology and habitats such as hay meadows and limestone heaths, to allow a viable and sustainable farming industry that produces high-quality food and supports thriving rural communities. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | Settlement consists of a clustered pattern of villages within a scattering of outlying farmsteads. Although buildings may have a medieval origin all of today's buildings, except some churches, date from the 17 th century onwards and are built in stone. Buildings are simple and robust in design, being a mixture of either gritstone or limestone, with stone slate or Staffordshire blue tiled roofs. There is a unity to the buildings in the village here, giving it the feel of a quintessential English village because in its present form design has been controlled by the estate. Management strategy is to p rotect and maintain historic field barns, and m anage the historical patterns of development. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 1: Protect and enhance the area's clear limestone rivers, streams and springs, limestone aquifer and dramatic karst geology, to provide a source of clean water, support strong populations of fish and other wildlife, enhance recreational and educational opportunities and contribute to the White Peak's strong sense of place and history. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

14.0 NCA 53: South West Peak

14.1 Key Characteristics

- An upland landscape characterised by Carboniferous age Millstone Grit with isolated basins of Coal Measures, deeply dissected by streams and rivers, resulting in a ridge-and-valley landscape of distinctive pattern and character;
- Isolated gritstone ridges and tors provide a dramatic contrast to the upland landscape, such as at Ramshaw Rocks, The Roaches and Windgather Rocks;
- Moorland core with a mosaic of landform, vegetation and wooded cloughs;
- Enclosed farmed landscape with a pastoral character created by semi improved grassland, hay meadows, rushy pastures which are also marshy with springs and flushes, more productive farmland and small woodlands;
- Rivers Bollin, Churnet, Dane, Dean, Dove, Hamps, Goyt and Manifold, all with their sources in the upland core and some feeding reservoirs as they flow downstream;
- Extensive livestock farming (sheep and beef) and grouse shooting on the moorlands with some dairy farming in the valleys;
- Intricate and distinctive field boundary patterns often with historic associations; gritstone walls at higher elevations and hedgerows at lower elevations;
- Heritage assets from prehistory to the present, with features particularly from the medieval period and later;
- Robust architectural style built predominantly of local stone with stone slate or Staffordshire blue clay tiled roofs, reflecting local geology and history;
- Predominantly dispersed settlement across the NCA;
- Moorland area to the north of Leek used for military training; Ministry of Defence management and restricted access add to the isolated character;
- Tourism industry and outdoor recreation centred on honeypot sites including Tittesworth and Goyt Valley reservoirs, The Roaches, Ramshaw Rocks and the National Trust's Lyme Park;
- Dramatic series of gritstone edges and tors exposed by a combination of glacial and fluvial action provide distinctive landscape features and are a major focus for rock climbing;
- Remote moorlands criss-crossed by historic pack-horse routes;
- Remains of former stone quarries and coal mining activities, particularly around Flash and Goyt's Moss; and
- Long, uninterrupted views from margins to upland areas and vice versa, with contained and intimate views around the foothills and within the valleys. Views into Manchester, Wales, Shropshire, Staffordshire and over the Cheshire Plain are possible from the upland core, tors and ridges. Landscape Character Types within NCA 51: Dark Peak within Peak District National Park.

14.2 Landscape Character Types within NCA 53: South West Peak within Peak District National Park

14.2.1 Densely Enclosed Gritstone Uplands (South West Peak)

Densely Enclosed Gritstone Uplands in South West Peak sits largely within NCA 53: South West Peak, but also within NCA 51: Dark Peak.

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

An undulating upland landscape with occasional rocky summits. There are a significant number of dispersed small gritstone farmsteads and cottages in this remote landscape, some associated with the former coal mining industry. This is a landscape of rough permanent pasture enclosed by gritstone walls. There are patches of heather moorland and areas of pasture reverting to moorland. This landscape character type occurs in one discrete area in the area around Flash and Goldsitch Moss.

Key Characteristics:

- Undulating upland landscape with occasional rocky summits;
- Dispersed settlement of small gritstone farmsteads and cottages, some associated with former coal mining industry;
- Thin soils over gritstone bedrock;
- Permanent pasture enclosed by gritstone walls;
- Patches of heather moorland and areas of pasture reverting to moorland;
- Open views over surrounding landscape and to adjacent hills; and
- Coal mining remains.

Table 50: Densely Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Densely Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent pasture enclosed by gritstone walls; • Patches of heather moorland and areas of pasture reverting to moorland; and • Largely of LCT contained within CroW Access land. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 51: Densely Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape character attributes

| Densely Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Acid grassland |
| Main Habitat Type | Heathland |
| Other Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Woodland Character | Occasional groups and small plantations |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Gritstone walls |
| Settlement Character | Small farmsteads and cottages |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, slate and Staffordshire blue clay |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 52: Densely Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape management actions

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>This is a pastoral farming landscape which supports stock rearing. There are some areas of rough grazing associated with heathland.</p> <p>There are areas of acid grassland, the most diverse of which are dominated by sheep's fescue and common bent usually with a mixture of other species. Other areas of grassland are dominated by wavy hair-grass and are often associated with patches of heather and bilberry.</p> <p>Management strategy is to eEnhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>There is little tree cover in this landscape. Trees are limited to occasional trees grouped around farmsteads. There are occasional small blocks of 20th century coniferous plantation woodland.</p> <p>Management strategy is to mManage and enhance plantation woodlands.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>There are some areas of rough grazing associated with heathland.</p> <p>There are extensive patches of heathland with heather, bilberry, gorse and bracken. Remnants of heathland vegetation are also found in the roadside verges.</p> <p>Other areas of grassland are dominated by wavy hair-grass and are often associated with patches of heather and bilberry.</p> <p>Management strategy is <u>to</u> Enhance and restore moorland landscapes, and <u>e</u>ncourage diverse approaches to moorland management.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Considering the remoteness of this landscape and poor soils, this is a remarkably settled landscape with frequent dispersed small farmsteads and cottages.</p> <p>Buildings are constructed from local gritstone and are roofed with stone slate or Staffordshire blue clay tiles. The most likely explanation for the high density of dwellings in such a remote landscape is that a significant proportion were built to provide housing for people working in the local coal industry, which included small-scale local operations and the somewhat larger scale mines at Danebower, Orchard Common and Goldsitch Moss. The additional income associated with the mining allowed the land to support a larger population than would otherwise be possible.</p> <p>Management strategy is <u>to</u> manage the dispersed and historic settlement patterns of development, and <u>m</u>anage intrusive features on farmland and farmsteads.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | <p>There are extensive relict coal mines in a band from Orchard Farm southwards to Blue Hills, with a particularly important concentration at Goldsitch Moss.</p> <p>Management strategy is <u>to</u> manage historic mineral landscapes.</p> |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | <p>Not in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and manage the South West Peak's Upper Mersey, Weaver and Trent catchments, watercourses and reservoirs to maintain their high water quality and significance to water supply and flood risk mitigation, to enhance their nature conservation interest, and to strengthen their contribution to landscape character, and the recreational opportunities that they provide for public enjoyment.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

14.2.2 Enclosed Gritstone Uplands (Dark Peak Western Fringe)

Enclosed Gritstone Uplands in Dark Peak Western Fringe sits within NCA 53: South West Peak. An enclosed upland landscape associated with high, gently undulating upland tops. This is a landscape of isolated stone farmsteads, straight roads and regular fields enclosed by drystone walls. Patches of remnant moorland vegetation are a feature in places within this landscape character type.

This landscape occurs on the edge of the moorland core, on the western margin of the Peak District, on the uplands centred on New Mills and to the west of Hayfield.

Key Characteristics:

- High rolling upland with some steeper slopes;
- Thin soils over gritstone bedrock with localised pockets of peat;
- Remnant patches of rough land with bracken and gorse, some heather and bilberry;
- Permanent pasture and rough grazing enclosed by gritstone walls;
- Regular pattern of medium to large fields;
- Straight roads with wide verges of grass and, in some places, heather;
- Scattered gritstone farmsteads with stone slate roofs and some relict quarry and coal mining sites; and
- Trees grouped around farmsteads for shelter.

Table 53: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------|---|
| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a network of footpaths throughout this landscape including the Pennine Bridleway and some small areas of access land; • Permanent pasture and rough grazing enclosed by gritstone walls; and • High rolling upland with some steeper slopes. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 54: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape character attributes

| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Improved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Moorland |
| Woodland Character | Treeless |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Oak, ash and sycamore |
| Hedgerow Trees | Occasional |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |

| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Boundary Type | Mixed species hedgerows and drystone walls |
| Settlement Character | Isolated farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, stone slate |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 55: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>This is a landscape of mostly improved permanent pasture with sheep and cattle grazing and some rough grazing. There are some reseeded grass leys and very occasional arable fields. However, the soils are mostly nutrient poor. Acid grassland exists where the soils have not been improved and some fields are dominated by rushes or are reverting to moorland habitats providing ecological interest.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>m</u>Manage and enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>The sheep grazing, poor soils and exposure restrict tree growth so this is essentially a treeless landscape. However, there are occasional tree groups of mainly broadleaved species such as oak, ash and sycamore.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Tree groups are planted adjacent to some farmsteads to create shelter around properties. There are some shelterbelts and occasional blocks of 19 th or 20 th century coniferous plantation woodland within this type. |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Heath-associated species, such as heather, bilberry and gorse, are a common feature in places.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>m</u>Manage and enhance areas of heath/moor, <u>and c</u>Create, extend and link areas of heath/moor.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Settlement tends to consist of isolated gritstone farmsteads with stone slate roofs often dating from the time that much of this landscape was enclosed from the 18th century onwards. Settlements often use the natural land form for weather protection. Higher up, towards where the enclosure gives way to the open moorland, the landscape is largely unsettled.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>p</u>Protect and maintain features associated with the historic industrial character, <u>and d</u>Develop small-scale renewable energy for local needs.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Historically, there was quarrying and mining associated with this landscape. At Chinley Churn there are particularly extensive relict quarries where surface quarrying and underground stone extraction was carried out. Historically, the landscape would also have supported coal mining as around Whaley Moor, Aspenshaw and Ludworth Intakes. There are extensive mining remains at Ollersett Moor dating from the early 18 th to late 19 th century. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and manage the South West Peak's Upper Mersey, Weaver and Trent catchments, watercourses and reservoirs to maintain their high water quality and significance to water supply and flood risk mitigation, to enhance their nature conservation interest, and to strengthen their contribution to landscape character, and the recreational opportunities that they provide for public enjoyment. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

14.2.3 Enclosed Gritstone Uplands (Derbyshire Peak Fringe)

Enclosed Gritstone Uplands in Derbyshire Peak Fringe sits within NCA 53: South West Peak.

An enclosed landscape on former moorland, associated with a high, gently undulating ridge summit. This is a landscape of isolated stone farmsteads, straight roads and regular fields enclosed by drystone walls.

This landscape occurs on the edge of the Eastern Moors character area in one location at Lidgate near Holmesfield.

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling uplands;
- Thin soils over gritstone bedrock;
- Remnant patches of rough land;
- Permanent pasture and rough grazing enclosed by gritstone walls;
- Regular pattern of medium to large fields;
- Straight roads with wide verges of grass; and
- Isolated sandstone farmsteads and cottages with stone slate roofs.

Table 56: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------|---|
| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent pasture and rough grazing enclosed by gritstone walls; • Rolling uplands; and • Straight roads with wide verges of grass. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 57: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape character attributes

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Improved pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Unimproved pasture |
| Woodland Character | Treeless |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Oak, Ash and Sycamore |
| Hedgerow Trees | None |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Drystone walls |
| Settlement Character | Hamlet |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone and stone |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 58: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>There is little semi-natural vegetation; fields are mainly improved grasses, but there is some bracken and gorse on the edge of the area providing local variation.</p> <p>This is a pastoral landscape of improved or semi-improved permanent pasture with sheep and cattle grazing and some rough grazing. There are some reseeded grass leys, however, soils are mostly of poor quality and some fields are dominated by rushes.</p> <p>Although not a priority management strategy, objectives to enhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands may be considered in some locations.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Woodland and Forest | w | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>The sheep grazing, poor soils and exposure restrict tree growth making this an essentially a treeless landscape. There are some trees associated with settlement, these are mainly scattered oak, ash and sycamore.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Verges occasionally support relict heath vegetation including bilberry and heather.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Settlement is restricted to the hamlet of Lidgate and wayside farmsteads and cottages which are dated from the time the landscape was enclosed. Buildings are gritstone with stone tiled roofs. There has been some modern infill development.</p> <p>Management strategy is to pProtect and maintain drystone walls, hedgerows and historical enclosure patterns.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and manage the South West Peak's Upper Mersey, Weaver and Trent catchments, watercourses and reservoirs to maintain their high water quality and significance to water supply and flood risk mitigation, to enhance their nature conservation interest, and to strengthen their contribution to landscape character, and the recreational opportunities that they provide for public enjoyment. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

14.2.4 Enclosed Gritstone Uplands (Derwent Valley)

Enclosed Gritstone Uplands in Derwent Valley sits within NCA 53: South West Peak.

An enclosed upland landscape associated with high ridges, shelves and former moortops. This is a landscape of isolated stone farmsteads with regular and irregular fields enclosed by drystone walls with patches of acid grassland. There are scattered mature boundary trees and groups of trees.

Enclosed Gritstone Uplands can be found in four discrete blocks on hilltops and are, but not exclusively, associated with areas of Open Moors. They can be found above Stanton, Harthill Moor, around Bretton and on Calton Pastures.

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling uplands;
- Thin soils over gritstone bedrock;
- Scattered mature trees in field boundaries and some tree groups;
- Remnant patches of rough land with bracken;
- A pattern of small to medium sized fields of regular and irregular shapes;
- Straight roads with wide verges;
- Isolated gritstone farmsteads with stone slate roofs with tree groups for shelter; and
- Important historic monuments.

Table 59: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------|--|
| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | This is a landscape with a high, rolling topography associated with gritstone ridges, shelves and former moortops; There are numerous public footpaths and bridleways linking farmsteads, and historic trackways giving access to local quarries and fields; and Important historic monuments. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 60: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape character attributes

| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |

| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Other Habitat Type | N/A |
| Woodland Character | Treeless/Occasional tree groups |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Oak, Ash and Sycamore |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlements |
| Boundary Type | Gritstone walls |
| Settlement Character | Scattered farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone and stone |
| Cultural Interests | Calton Pastures |

Table 61: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>This is a landscape of mainly permanent pasture grazed by sheep. Land use is mainly permanent pasture with a few isolated fields of ley grassland. There are isolated patches of acid grassland on the steeper areas and heather is found in old quarries, whilst bracken is found within roadside verges.</p> <p>Management strategy is to enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>There is a mixture of trees including oak, ash and sycamore with thorn scrub.</p> <p>Sheep grazing, poor soils and exposure restrict tree growth making this essentially a treeless landscape. However, there are occasional tree groups, generally adjacent to farmsteads and planted to create shelter around properties using broadleaved species such as ash and sycamore.</p> <p>There are thinly scattered mature trees and scrub within some field boundaries. At Calton there are large blocks of woodland within and around the edge of the area, primarily coniferous, whilst around old quarries on Harthill Moor secondary birch woodland is developing.</p> <p>Although not a priority management strategy, objectives to manage the extent of birch scrub to maintain a diverse landscape mosaic may be considered in some locations.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>There are isolated patches of acid grassland on the steeper areas and heather is found in old quarries, whilst bracken is found within roadside verges.</p> <p>Although not a priority management strategy, opportunities to create, extend and link areas of heath/moor may be considered in some locations.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | Settlement is confined to a few scattered isolated farmsteads. While Bretton has existed since the medieval period the buildings have been rebuilt in stone in post-medieval times; other farmsteads are likely to be post-medieval in date. Buildings are gritstone with stone slate roofs. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | There are numerous public footpaths and bridleways linking farmsteads, and historic trackways giving access to local quarries and fields. Management strategy is to manage historic mineral landscapes. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and manage the South West Peak's Upper Mersey, Weaver and Trent catchments, watercourses and reservoirs to maintain their high water quality and significance to water supply and flood risk mitigation, to enhance their nature conservation interest, and to strengthen their contribution to landscape character, and the recreational opportunities that they provide for public enjoyment. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

14.2.5 Enclosed Gritstone Uplands (Eastern Moors)

Enclosed Gritstone Uplands in Eastern Moors sits within NCA 53: South West Peak.

An enclosed upland pasture landscape associated with high, gently undulating moortops, sloping in places to higher ground. This is a landscape of isolated stone farmsteads, regular fields with patches of acid grassland enclosed by drystone walls, and straight roads. Boulder fields and rocky outcrops are a feature in places, often associated with patches of remnant moorland vegetation. Plantation woodland is also a localised feature.

To the north this landscape occurs in discrete blocks on a similar elevation or on lower land running down from the open moorland. However, it is the dominant character type in the lower lying southern area of the Eastern Moors.

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling uplands with some steeper slopes;
- Thin mineral soils over gritstone bedrock;
- Remnant patches of rough land with bracken and heather;
- Permanent pasture and rough grazing enclosed by gritstone walls;
- Regular pattern of medium to large fields;
- Straight roads with wide verges of grass and, in some places, heather;
- Isolated gritstone farmsteads with stone slate roofs with tree groups for shelter; and
- Extensive conifer plantations around Matlock Moo.

Table 62: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------|---|
| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This landscape is associated with broad, gently undulating gritstone uplands in places rising steeply to higher open moorlands; • Permanent pasture and rough grazing enclosed by gritstone walls; and |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive conifer plantations around Matlock Moo. |
|--|---|

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 63: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape character attributes

| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Woodland |
| Woodland Character | Plantation woodlands |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Ash, Oak and Sycamore |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Drystone walls |
| Settlement Character | Farmsteads and hamlets |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone and stone |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 64: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands – Landscape management actions

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>This is a landscape of mostly improved or semi-improved permanent pasture with sheep and cattle grazing and some rough grazing except in the south, on Matlock Moor where plantation woodland is the dominant land use.</p> <p>Soils are mostly impoverished and some fields are dominated by rushes or are reverting to moorland habitats.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance the diversity of agricultural grassland.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Tree growth tends to be limited to, although in places extensive plantation woodlands occur around Matlock Moor (Farley Moor, Upper Moor, Bottom Moor and Flash Lane), to the south. Elsewhere grazing, poor soils and exposure restrict natural tree generation. However, there are occasional tree groups, generally adjacent to farmsteads and planted to create shelter around properties, using broadleaved species such as oak, ash and sycamore.</p> <p>Plantation woodlands are a strong characteristic in some areas, such as at Stand Wood above Chatsworth.</p> <p>Although not a priority management strategy: to manage and enhance woodlands may be considered in some locations.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Heath-associated species such as heather, bilberry and gorse are a feature in many places.</p> <p>Although not a priority management strategy, to create, extend and link areas of heath may be considered in some locations.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | Yes | <p>Settlement is dispersed within this landscape. Gritstone farmsteads with stone slate roofs, often dating from the time that the landscape was enclosed from the 18th and 19th centuries, are the most frequent settlement type.</p> <p>Higher up, towards the open moorland, the landscape is often unsettled. In some areas, such as Fallinge, Burley and Farley, the hamlets have medieval origins but the buildings are later replacements in stone dating from the 17th century onwards.</p> <p>Management strategy is to protect historic drystone walls, protect and maintain cultural heritage resources, manage the sparse and historic pattern of development, and develop small-scale renewable energy for local needs.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | <p>Historically, this landscape has supported coal mining and small scale quarrying in some areas. Baslow Colliery, near Robin Hood, was the largest mine and may have been worked from medieval times, but was at its height during the 18th and early 19th centuries. The coal is likely to have been used for local industrial and domestic markets.</p> <p>Although not a priority management strategy, to the reopening consider the reopening of small-scale quarries for local stone supply may be considered in some locations.</p> |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and manage the South West Peak's Upper Mersey, Weaver and Trent catchments, watercourses and reservoirs to maintain their high water quality and significance to water supply and flood risk mitigation, to enhance their nature conservation interest, and to strengthen their contribution to landscape character, and the recreational opportunities that they provide for public enjoyment. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

14.2.6 Enclosed Gritstone Uplands (South West Peak)

Enclosed Gritstone Uplands in South West Peak sits within NCA 53: South West Peak.

An open landscape associated with broad, rolling hill summits. This is a landscape of isolated stone farmsteads, straight roads, regular fields of variable sizes enclosed by drystone walls and patches of remnant dry heath.

This landscape character type occurs on the lower hill summits across the South West Peak around the fringes of the highest upland core, including Sponds Hill, Gun Hill, Butterton Moor and the southern part of Morridge.

Key Characteristics:

- High rolling hill summits;
- Thin soils over gritstone bedrock;
- Permanent pasture enclosed by gritstone walls;
- Remnant patches of rough land with bracken and gorse and some heather;
- Regular patterns of different sized fields;
- Straight roads with wide grass verges; and
- Isolated gritstone farmsteads with stone slate roofs.

Table 65: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|----------------------------|---|
| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a landscape of relatively high rolling hill summits which in places form rounded ridge summits; • There are some areas of access land associated with heathland; and • Permanent pasture enclosed by gritstone walls. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 66: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands - Landscape character attributes

| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |

| Enclosed Gritstone Uplands | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|----------------------------|---|
| Other Habitat Type | Heathland |
| Woodland Character | Occasional small plantation |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Mature ash and sycamore |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlements |
| Boundary Type | Gritstone walls |
| Settlement Character | Farmsteads and Cottages |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, stone, Staffordshire blue clay tiles |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 67: Enclosed Gritstone Uplands - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>This is a pastoral farming landscape which supports stock rearing and some dairying. There are some areas of rough grazing associated with the areas of dry heath.</p> <p>There are areas of acid grassland, the most diverse of which are dominated by sheep's fescue and common bent usually with a mixture of other species. Other areas of grassland are dominated by wavy hair-grass and are often associated with patches of heather and bilberry.</p> <p>Management strategy is to enhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>There is little tree cover in this landscape. Trees are mostly limited to tree groups of mature ash and sycamore that shelter farmsteads. There are occasional small blocks of post-war plantation woodland.</p> <p>Although not a priority management strategy, <u>consideration should be given</u> to <u>the creation of</u> <u>clough woods</u>, <u>to p</u>Protect historic parkland landscapes, and <u>p</u>Protect historic hedgerows may be considered in some locations.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>There are occasional patches of heathland with heather, bilberry, gorse and bracken and remnants of heathland vegetation in the roadside verges. There are areas of acid grassland, the most diverse of which are dominated by sheep's fescue and common bent usually with a mixture of other species. Other areas of grassland are dominated by wavy hair-grass and are often associated with patches of heather and bilberry.</p> <p>Much of this landscape was once open moorland but was enclosed, probably <u>mostly</u> during the 18th and 19th centuries. Drystone walls and occasional hedgerows define regular patterns of fields.</p> <p>Management strategy is to protect historic drystone walls, enhance and restore moorland landscapes, encourage diverse approaches to moorland management and create, extend and link areas of heath/moor.</p> |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | Yes | This is a sparsely settled landscape with only occasional isolated farmsteads. Farmsteads are |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | constructed from local gritstone and are roofed with stone slate or Staffordshire blue clay tiles. Most farmsteads were presumably constructed during the 18th and 19th centuries when the landscape was enclosed. Although not a priority management strategy, objectives should: to manage the dispersed and historic settlement patterns of development and manage intrusive features on farmland and farmsteads may be considered in some locations. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | Important coal mining remains are restricted to Bakestonedale Moor and Sponds Moor to the north east of Bollington. Although not a priority management strategy, to consider - manage management of historic mineral landscapes may be considered in some locations. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and manage the South West Peak's Upper Mersey, Weaver and Trent catchments, watercourses and reservoirs to maintain their high water quality and significance to water supply and flood risk mitigation, to enhance their nature conservation interest, and to strengthen their contribution to landscape character, and the recreational opportunities that they provide for public enjoyment. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

14.2.7 Moorland Hills And Ridges (South West Peak)

Moorland Hills And Ridges in South West Peak sits within NCA 53: South West Peak.

This is a landscape of steep hill slopes and high ridges with heathland vegetation and prominent outcrops of steeply dipping gritstone. This wild, sparsely settled landscape has panoramic views to surrounding hills and over the lowlands to the west. Drystone walls define large enclosures.

This landscape character type occurs on high hills and slopes along the central spine of the South West Peak. It includes distinctive hill and ridge summits, the steep slopes of the Roaches, Ramshaw Rocks, Shuttlingsloe, Morrige and the steep slopes above the Goyt Valley.

Key Characteristics:

- Steep hills, slopes and ridges with narrow summits;
- Prominent outcrops of steeply dipping gritstone;
- Thin impoverished soils over gritstone bedrock;
- Rough grassland and dry heath extensively grazed by sheep;
- Panoramic views to surrounding hills and over the lowlands to the west; and
- Occasional historic stone quarries and coal mining remains.

Table 68: Moorland Hills And Ridges - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Moorland Hills And Ridges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are popular climbing routes on the steep rocky outcrops at the Roaches, Hen Cloud and Ramshaw Rocks; • Rough grassland and dry heath extensively grazed by sheep; and • Panoramic views to surrounding hills and over the lowlands to the west. |
|---------------------------|---|

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 69: Moorland Hills And Ridges - Landscape character attributes

| Moorland Hills And Ridges | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|---------------------------|---|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Heathland |
| Woodland Character | Treeless |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Treeless |
| Hedgerow Trees | N/A |
| Watercourse | N/A |
| Amenity Trees | Treeless |
| Boundary Type | Thorn hedgerows/Gritstone walls |
| Settlement Character | Occasional Farmstead |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, stone, Staffordshire blue clay tiles |
| Cultural Interests | Roaches, Hen Cloud and Ramshaw Rocks |

Table 70: Moorland Hills And Ridges - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>This is a pastoral farming landscape with patches of rough grazing on heathland. Stock rearing of sheep and cattle predominates. Areas of smaller fields often</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | have improved permanent grassland although some fields are reverting to heathland habitats. |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>There is very little tree cover in this exposed landscape. Thorn bushes mark the course of some former hedgerows and there are occasional patches of willow scrub.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage and enhance plantation woodlands.</p> <p>Although not a priority management strategy, to creation of clough woods may be considered in some locations.</p> |
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources. The dominant vegetation is dwarf shrub heath with heather and bilberry. Management strategy is to enhance and restore moorland landscapes, encourage diverse approaches to moorland management and create, extend and link areas of heath / moor. |
| Wetland | f | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | This is a sparsely settled landscape with only occasional isolated farmsteads set into the hill slopes for shelter. Farmsteads are constructed from local gritstone and are roofed with stone slates or Staffordshire blue clay tiles. Presumably most if not all were constructed in the 18th and 19th centuries when the landscape was enclosed. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | Yes | There are several sites of historic stone and roof slate quarries, while important examples of former coal mines are restricted to the upper Dane Valley, parts of the Goyt Valley and Burbage. Although not a priority management strategy, the management of historic mineral landscapes may be considered in some locations. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | No | Not in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and manage the South West Peak's Upper Mersey, Weaver and Trent catchments, watercourses and reservoirs to maintain their high water quality and significance to water supply and flood risk mitigation, to enhance their nature conservation interest, and to strengthen their contribution to landscape character, and the recreational opportunities that they provide for public enjoyment. Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

14.2.8 Upland Pastures (South West Peak)

Upland Pastures in South West Peak sits within NCA 53: South West Peak, but also sits in NCA 52: White Peak.

This is an upland pastoral landscape with a traditional dispersed pattern of gritstone farmsteads of probable ancient origins. There are also localised village settlements. Permanent pasture is enclosed by drystone walls and some hedgerows. Trees are scattered along incised cloughs and around dispersed gritstone farmsteads. This is a very peaceful rural landscape with open views to surrounding higher ground.

This landscape character type occurs on the higher ground towards the southern part of the South West Peak, around Mixon, Warslow, Butterton, Longnor, Hollinsclough and Grindon.

Key Characteristics:

- Undulating slopes with gentler summits and incised cloughs;
- Dispersed gritstone farmsteads and loose clusters of dwellings, with stone slates or clay tile roofs;
- Permanent pasture enclosed by gritstone walls and some thorn hedgerows;
- Scattered trees along cloughs and around farmsteads;
- Fields of rushy pasture and occasional patches of bracken, bilberry and heather;
- Narrow winding lanes which are sunken on slopes; and
- Various shaped small to medium fields of various dates.

Table 71: Upland Pastures - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Upland Pastures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fields of rushy pasture and occasional patches of bracken, bilberry and heather; • Undulating slopes with gentler summits and incised cloughs; • This is a settled landscape with dispersed farmsteads, sometimes in loose clusters, and a few villages; and • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 72: Upland Pastures - Landscape character attributes

| Upland Pastures | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | Heathland |
| Woodland Character | Scattered |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | N/A |
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Gritstone walls and hedgerows |
| Settlement Character | Village and farmsteads |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone, limestone and clay tile roofs |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 73: Upland Pastures - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity: |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Wet or marshy grasslands are often characterised by the grass, Yorkshire fog and have patches of soft rush. There are also occasional fields of acid grassland and localised patches of bracken.</p> <p>This is a pastoral farming landscape with stock rearing of sheep and cattle and some dairying. Many fields have been highly improved and are cut for silage. Some fields are still cut for hay while other poorer quality pasture has patches of rushes.</p> <p>Management strategy is to Enhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | No | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Tree cover is fairly limited in this landscape. Trees are grouped around settlements for shelter. There are also scattered trees along some field boundaries and watercourses which filter views in places. Higher land is particularly open and un-wooded.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Heathland and Shrub | h | Yes | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>The soils in this landscape are heavy and prone to seasonal waterlogging. In places soils are particularly impoverished or peaty which gives rise to remnant patches of wet heath and/or bog.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>The soils in this landscape are heavy and prone to seasonal waterlogging. In places soils are particularly impoverished or peaty which gives rise to remnant patches of wet heath and/or bog.</p> <p>No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, this is likely to have potential for change as this LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | Yes | <p>This is a settled landscape with dispersed farmsteads, sometimes in loose clusters, and a few villages. Three of the villages flank the limestone plateau and are an extension of the nucleated settlement pattern here.</p> <p>Further north, Longnor is probably a medieval imposition on the dispersed settlement landscape, created to provide a local market-place and service centre for the farming community. Sheen is very small today and is perhaps little different from the hamlet clusters found throughout much of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Settlement on these uplands is often associated with springs. While some places have medieval or earlier origins, today's buildings mostly date from between the 17th to 19th centuries and are constructed of local gritstone with clay tile roofs. There is also some limestone used for the construction of buildings in the areas adjacent to White Peak landscapes.</p> <p>This landscape is crossed by narrow sinuous lanes with narrow verges. There is a dense network of public footpaths, providing routes through the landscape and linking farmsteads.</p> <p>Management strategy is to manage the dispersed and historic settlement patterns of development, and</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | Manage intrusive features on farmland and farmsteads. |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and manage the South West Peak's Upper Mersey, Weaver and Trent catchments, watercourses and reservoirs to maintain their high water quality and significance to water supply and flood risk mitigation, to enhance their nature conservation interest, and to strengthen their contribution to landscape character, and the recreational opportunities that they provide for public enjoyment. No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, this is likely to have potential for change as this LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

14.2.9 Upper Valley Pastures (South West Peak)

Upper Valley Pastures in South West Peak sits within NCA 53: South West Peak, but also sits in NCA 51: Dark Peak.

This is a settled pastoral valley landscape with scattered trees along hedgerows, around settlements and following streams. Fields of permanent pasture are divided by hedgerows and occasional drystone walls. This is a settled landscape with dispersed gritstone farmsteads with stone or clay tile roofs. Views along the valley and to surrounding hills are filtered through scattered trees.

This landscape is found as discrete valley units in the foothills of the South West Peak. It includes the upper valleys of the River Dove and Manifold, and valleys near Kettlethulme and Combs.

Key Characteristics:

- Undulating lower valley slopes with incised stream valleys;
- Scattered trees along hedgerows, around settlements and alders along incised streams;
- A settled landscape with dispersed gritstone farmsteads and loose clusters of dwellings with stone slate or clay tile roofs;
- Permanent pasture enclosed by a mixture of drystone walls and hedgerows;
- Patches of rushy pasture; and
- Narrow winding lanes.

Table 74: Upper Valley Pastures - Landscape characteristics

| Landscape Character Type | Distinctive Local Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Upper Valley Pastures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a low lying landscape of valley slopes that is framed by surrounding higher ground; • Permanent pasture enclosed by a mixture of drystone walls and hedgerows; • Patches of rushy pasture; and • LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3. |

More information on individual LCT's can be found here: [Landscape Strategy: Peak District National Park](#)

Table 75: Upper Valley Pastures - Landscape character attributes

| Upper Valley Pastures | Current Landscape Character Attributes |
|-----------------------|--|
| Land Use | Rough grazing |
| Main Habitat Type | Pasture |
| Other Habitat Type | N/A |
| Woodland Character | Scattered |
| Woodland Vision | N/A |
| Woodland Type | Alder |
| Hedgerow Trees | Scattered |
| Watercourse | Scattered |
| Amenity Trees | Localised around settlement |
| Boundary Type | Drystone walls/ |
| Settlement Character | Farmsteads and cottages |
| Traditional Materials | Gritstone and limestone |
| Cultural Interests | - |

Table 76: Upper Valley Pastures - Landscape management actions

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Grassland | g | Yes | <p>Management actions are broadly in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>This is a pastoral farming landscape with stock rearing of sheep and cattle and some dairying. Many fields have been highly improved and are cut for silage. There are damp hollows in some fields which have patches of rushes.</p> <p>Wet or marshy grasslands are often characterised by the grass, Yorkshire fog and have patches of soft rush. Alder is found fringing the watercourses, sometimes forming denser wooded belts.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>e</u>Enhance the diversity of agricultural grasslands.</p> |
| Woodland and Forest | w | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Although there is little woodland in this landscape, there is often a well-wooded feel due to the many scattered trees along field boundaries, watercourses and around settlement.</p> <p>Hedgerows are mostly dominated by hawthorn and blackthorn but some are more mixed and include holly and hazel.</p> <p>Management strategy is to <u>p</u>Protect historic hedgerows, and <u>m</u>Manage and enhance linear tree cover and amenity trees.</p> |

Derbyshire Natural Capital Strategy

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Heathland and Shrub | h | No | <p>Management actions are not in accordance with the following Statements of Environmental Opportunity:</p> <p>SEO 1: Protect, manage and enhance the open, expansive moorlands of the South West Peak and internationally important habitats and species that they support, protecting both soil and water resources.</p> <p>SEO 2: Protect, manage and enhance the moorland fringes and valleys, with their mosaics of habitats including moorland, heathland, woodland, meadows and pastures, strong field boundary patterns defined by drystone walls and hedgerows, and small, dispersed settlements, to safeguard water quality, enhance biodiversity and ecological networks and strengthen the distinctive historic landscape character of the South West Peak.</p> <p>Not a dominant land cover within this LCT.</p> |
| Wetland | f | Yes | <p>Wet or marshy grasslands are often characterised by the grass, Yorkshire fog and have patches of soft rush. Alder is found fringing the watercourses, sometimes forming denser wooded belts.</p> <p>No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, this is likely to have potential for change as this LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3.</p> |
| Cropland | c | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |
| Urban | u | No | <p>Settlement is dispersed through the landscape with farmsteads built of local gritstone and often with stone slate roofs. There are also small clusters of farms and cottages, often found at crossing points of the many streams and rivers.</p> <p>Although some places have medieval if not earlier origins, the present buildings date from the 17th to 19th century. Some limestone is found in buildings and walls near to the adjacent White Peak landscapes. Those parts of the valleys of the Dove and Manifold in this character type were part of the forest of Malbanc Frith and forest laws may have inhibited settlement until later medieval times.</p> |
| Sparsely Vegetated Land | s | No | Not a dominant land cover within this LCT. |

| Management Action | Code | Potential for Change (Yes/No) | Comments |
|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Rivers and Lakes | r | Yes | <p>Broadly in accordance with SEO 3: Protect and manage the South West Peak's Upper Mersey, Weaver and Trent catchments, watercourses and reservoirs to maintain their high water quality and significance to water supply and flood risk mitigation, to enhance their nature conservation interest, and to strengthen their contribution to landscape character, and the recreational opportunities that they provide for public enjoyment.</p> <p>Wet or marshy grasslands are often characterised by the grass, Yorkshire fog and have patches of soft rush. Alder is found fringing the watercourses, sometimes forming denser wooded belts.</p> <p>No specific management actions are outlined within the PDNP strategy however, this is likely to have potential for change as this LCT sits within EA flood risk zones 2 + 3.</p> |

Management action habitat types taken from UK Habitat Classification Level 2. When considering potential for change, further analysis and assessment will be required on a site-by-site basis.

15.0 Geospatial Data and other published written assessment used

15.1 Geospatial Data and other published written assessment

Geospatial Data sets used include:

- Crow access land
- Green belt
- Flood risk mapping zones 2 + 3
- Country Parks
- Registered Parks and Gardens
- National Parks
- National Trails
- PRoWs
- Ancient Woodland
- Listed buildings
- Scheduled monuments
- Registered Parks and Gardens
- World Heritage Sites
- Heritage at Risk

Other Data sets used:

- National Character Areas
- DCC – Landscape Character Types
- DCC – Extended Landscape Character Types within Derby City
- PDNP – Landscape Character Types
- Historic Landscape Character – Specifically Extraction
- Quarry Draft areas from Envsys