

Project: SW nature map development

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Project aim: (i) To produce an interactive website for the regional nature map and (ii) To hold a one-day workshop for one 'Strategic Nature Area' (SNA) (or one cluster of SNAs) in each county, all by the end of April 2007.

Project outputs:

(i) Interactive website

Contract a company to make the Nature Map available in an interactive form, either on a stand alone web page or on the SW Observatory portal. As a first step, biodiversity partners would be able to click on a SNA and start to populate it with information e.g. existing initiatives (links to other websites), existing data, data needs, and description of vision. This would be the beginning of a 'prospectus' for each SNA, identifying existing activity and potential partnerships. Ultimately, it could be used to engage the public in a debate about the vision for each SNA.

(ii) Workshops

The output for each workshop will be a map and/or sketch, with text, describing what environmental organisations want to achieve in the chosen SNAs, focusing on biodiversity and resource protection, but listing outputs for access, recreation, landscape, heritage, economy & society as well, if possible or desirable. The aim would be to produce something that could be used to engage landowners, decision-makers and the public in a debate about the draft vision, so that, ultimately, they supported it.

We will ask each county partnership to choose an SNA or cluster of SNAs. Ideally, they should choose an area with no existing partnerships centred on the SNA(s). We will employ facilitators to set up & run the workshops. The county partnership will need to nominate a lead to work with the facilitator, and possibly a small project group will be needed to guide the facilitator in exact format and content of the workshop.

We will ask & pay the county record centres to provide bespoke spatial information for the workshops or obtain information from a third party e.g. Met Office climate change data).

Attendance at each workshop should reach beyond biodiversity sectors e.g. to health, tourism, access, renewable energy etc. The precise list will be down to the local partnership.