

# North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

Appendix 4: LNRS Nature recovery opportunities longlist

**CONSULTATION DRAFT**

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A large, abstract graphic consisting of several overlapping circular arcs in light green and light blue, creating a sense of movement and depth in the background.

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## 1. Overview

A number of opportunities were selected to be taken forward as priorities in the first iteration of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for North Yorkshire and York (see Appendix 1 for an overview of the prioritisation and selection process). These are presented in the Statement of Biodiversity Priorities and the Local Habitat Map. This document provides the longlist of opportunities for nature recovery (hereafter referred to as opportunities) that were put forward for consideration to be included in the LNRS, along with their associated measures, that were not selected as priorities during the prioritisation and selection process.

The longlist was compiled following a series of six habitat-themed stakeholder workshops during early summer 2024. Suggested opportunities were also requested via email from wider stakeholders, community groups and other interested parties (including those who had signed up to the LNRS mailing list). See Appendix 1 for further information on how opportunities and associated measures were gathered.

For ease of navigation, the longlist of opportunities and associated measures presented in the tables on the following pages is separated into the same habitat categories used for the shortlisted priorities. These are:

- Farmland (FRM)
- Upland (UPL)
- Grassland (GRA)
- Woodland (WLD)
- Water and wetlands (WET)
- Urban (URB)
- Coast (CST)

## 2. Opportunities and measures

Opportunities are the end results that the strategy is seeking to achieve. They can be considered as the ‘what’ and the ‘why’ of nature recovery; what we are seeking to do, and why we are seeking to do it. Each opportunity has one or more associated measures. These are the practical ‘on the ground’ actions that, if taken, would help to deliver the aims of the opportunity. They can be considered as the ‘how’ and the ‘where’ of nature recovery; how we could do it, and where we could do it.

*Direct action and enabling activity measures:*

Measures are noted as being either ‘direct action’ or ‘enabling activity’ measures. Those identified in the tables as ‘direct action’ measures would directly benefit nature through enhancing existing habitats or creating new habitats. Those identified in the tables as ‘enabling activity’ measures would help more broadly to enable and support the direct actions to take place, for example through providing case studies or identifying and mapping areas of existing habitat, but would not in themselves result in habitat enhancements.

### 3. Farmland (FRM)

Opportunity:

**OPP003** Promote in-field cornflower plots, wild bird crop strips and Turtle Dove food strips to provide seed for farmland birds and inter-connecting habitat for insects and pollinators (some of which are natural pest control).

Measures (Actions):

<b>M03.1</b>	Identify and map existing Cornfield Plots. Raise awareness of the value of Cornfield flowers to identify and protect existing sites and to identify potential new sites.	Enabling activity
<b>M03.2</b>	Raise awareness of this benefits of cornfield flower and plots and wild bird mixes, the appropriate species mix and how to manage as part of a rotation.	Enabling activity
<b>M03.4</b>	Facilitate the spreading of seed to new potential sites, targeted to the most appropriate areas.	Direct action

Opportunity:

**OPP004** Create more herbal leys to increase soil health and climate resilience of soils, encouraging the use of seed mixes that are suited to local conditions and ecology.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M04.1</b>	Working with farm advisory services and their associated farm cluster groups respond to ELMs options for herbal leys through training, advice, and support.	Enabling activity
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Opportunity:

**OPP007** Buffer and expand traditional orchards and create new ones with appropriate tree varieties and grassland management to support traditional land management practices and increase biodiversity.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M07.1</b>	Identify existing orchards and opportunities to expand and create new ones.	Enabling activity
<b>M07.2</b>	Encourage orchard owners to augment traditional orchards with planting and appropriate management through guidance and sign-posting to funding.	Enabling activity
<b>M07.3</b>	Raise the profile of non-intensive orchards through promoting the wide range of species they support.	Enabling activity

Opportunity:

**OPP008** Increase habitat for farmland birds by promoting a wide range of stewardship options.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M08.1</b>	Promote suitable management for farmland birds such as grey partridge, skylark, yellowhammer, turtle dove, lapwing, curlew: big, well-managed hedgerows, provision of food and water sources in arable margins, promote hay meadows where appropriate.	Enabling activity
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## 4. Upland (UPL)

Opportunity:

**OPP127** Enhance and create sub-montane dwarf shrub heath to increase amount of this restricted habitat.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M127.1</b>	Identify suitable receptor sites for translocation using manual species dispersal methods, on the tops of the region's highest hills, and north-facing slopes of lower hills (these are more resilient to climate change). Survey existing sites to establish typical plant species.	Enabling activity
<b>M127.3</b>	Monitor recreational disturbance and damaging leisure activities.	Enabling activity
<b>M127.4</b>	Reduce grazing pressure, remove negative species (e.g. bracken, <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) and re-introduce lost species.	Direct action

## 5. Grassland (GRA)

Opportunity:

**OPP013** Maintain and enhance calaminarian grassland to support specialist plant species.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M13.1</b>	Use bunds to limit the leaching out of heavy metals from the calaminarian grasslands to maintain the metallic influences and to improve water quality of nearby waterbodies (by reducing water pollution from metal mine spoil heaps).	Direct action
<b>M13.2</b>	Ensure appropriate grazing management of calaminarian grasslands to maximise floristic diversity of specialist plant species.	Direct action

Opportunity:

**OPP022** Increase species diversity of improved grassland to improve total biodiversity, carbon sequestration and drought resistance of land.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M22.1</b>	Raise awareness of the benefits of increasing plant diversity to productivity of land and promote techniques such as adjusting grazing intensity/timing, reducing or modifying inputs of fertilisers and chemicals, or overseeding with additional species to encourage greater uptake. Create more herbal leys to increase soil health and climate resilience of soils, encouraging the use of seed mixes that are suited to local conditions and ecology.	Enabling activity
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Opportunity:

**OPP026** Enhance the species richness of existing lowland hay meadow sites and adjacent land. Restore and create species-rich grasslands between these fragmented sites to provide connectivity for specialist species.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M26.1</b>	Increase grassland diversity in neighbouring fields of known lowland hay meadow sites through grazing management and the use of green hay from local donor sites.	Direct action
<b>M26.2</b>	Identify a network of sites as sources for green hay and plug plants.	Enabling activity
<b>M26.3</b>	Facilitate cutting and grazing of meadows (potential sharing of seed hay, shared grazing flocks). Establish pilot resource mapping (matching livestock, cutting machinery availability to need / sites) in clusters of high-quality grassland (national landscapes).	Enabling activity

Opportunity:

**OPP031** Expand the use of buffer strips to protect water courses and sensitive habitats (e.g. ancient woodland) from in-field activities to increase biodiversity and prevent soil erosion and water pollution.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M31.1</b>	Use existing networks (e.g. Catchment Sensitive Farming officers, catchment partnerships) to raise awareness of the importance of buffer strips as an ELMs option.	Enabling activity
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<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP033</b> Increase wet features within grassland habitats to increase connectivity of wetland species through the landscape, and increase climate change resilience.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M33.1</b>	Provide support and advice on the use of available funding options for wet grassland.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP036</b> Enhance and connect long-established and low-input grassland sites of high value for grassland fungi (and other lower plant species).		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M36.1</b>	Using waxcap species (and other lower plant groups) as a proxy, identify these grasslands, and where suitable propose for local wildlife designation.	Enabling activity
<b>M36.2</b>	Raise awareness of the uses of grassland fungi as an indicator of long-established and low-input grassland sites of high value and implement sensitive grassland management to support these species.	Direct action
<b>M36.3</b>	Effectively share information on the location of these high value grassland fungi sites to ensure it is used within the woodland creation workstream.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP037</b> Manage recreational activities at honeypot sites to reduce damage to habitats and disturbance to wildlife.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M37.1</b>	Raise awareness of Local Plan policy to ensure that indirect impacts on high quality grasslands are considered. Improve signage and information at honeypot sites.	Enabling activity
<b>M37.2</b>	Identify new greenspace sites and networks to reduce recreational disturbance at high quality honeypots sites.	Enabling activity
<b>M37.3</b>	Where new housing developments are proposed in the vicinity of nature reserves, require developers to provide new and alternative green space for new residents.	Direct action
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP070</b> Gap up and rebuild stone walls to benefit of key species.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M70.1</b>	Gapping up and rebuild stone walls for species such as adder, slow worms, newts, red squirrels and other mammals, lower plant species. Raising awareness of the benefits of walls as corridors and refuges for these species.	Direct action
<b>M70.2</b>	Survey and identify dry stone walls for high biodiversity value, quantify their value.	Enabling activity
<b>M70.3</b>	Quantify the biodiversity value of dry stone walls (SWEF group project).	Enabling activity
<b>M70.4</b>	Training to increase people to gap up and create dry stone walls.	Enabling activity



Opportunity:

**OPP111** Restore modified grassland following maintenance or utilities works to increase biodiversity.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M111.1</b>	Seed with species-rich, local-provenance mix.	Direct action
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## 6. Woodland (WLD)

Opportunity:

**OPP085** Increase tree and woodland connectivity through urban spaces using a variety of high quality designs to maximise biodiversity and reduce barriers for nature.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M85.1</b>	Include woodland creation/urban forest requirements within the framework of the North Yorkshire and York Local Plans, green infrastructure strategies, BNG policies and the tree and woodland strategies.	Enabling activity
<b>M85.2</b>	Apply the 3/30/300 rule when implementing tree and woodland strategies in the urban environment.	Enabling activity
<b>M85.3</b>	Ensure early engagement with developers and planners to ensure the correct type of urban planting scheme is developed suitable for the area being planted and resilient from a tree health perspective.	Enabling activity
<b>M85.4</b>	Plant mixed woodland with trees and shrubs with permissive public access.	Direct action

Opportunity:

**OPP086** Buffer broadleaved woodland to avoid conflict with adjacent habitats (e.g. heathland and breeding birds).

Measures (Actions):

<b>M86.1</b>	Implement suitable habitat creation and management to buffer woodlands with adjacent habitats, e.g. hazel coppice to support movement of hazel dormouse.	Direct action
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Opportunity:

**OPP087** Mitigate the ecological impact of ash dieback to benefit associated species.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M87.1</b>	Retaining some ash trees (where possible) in line with current forestry practice, and prioritising areas with high ash coverage for new tree planting to reduce the impact of expected loss of woodland cover (including planting non-native ash and disease-resistant ash).	Direct action
<b>M87.2</b>	Retain trees demonstrating some degree of resistance and retention of trees for deadwood habitat.	Direct action
<b>M87.3</b>	Encourage proportion of ash included in future restocking.	Enabling activity
<b>M87.4</b>	Ensure that restocking composition serves to best replace ecological functions of ash.	Direct action
<b>M87.5</b>	Explore opportunities for production and supply of resistant ash planting stock.	Enabling activity
<b>M87.6</b>	Provide clear advice to landowners regarding opportunities to fund replacement of infield and hedgerow trees and ash woodland where there is a clear need.	Enabling activity
<b>M87.7</b>	Map dead and dying individual trees and woodland.	Enabling activity

<b>M87.8</b>	Regulators to provide clear guidance on replacement of ash in different contexts.	Enabling activity
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## Opportunity:

**OPP088** Enhance and expand high quality, diverse oak woodland for the benefit of key species.

## Measures (Actions):

<b>M88.1</b>	Encourage management of a variety of woodland features, in particular mature / dead trees to support species such as pied flycatcher, redstart, wood warbler, lesser spotted woodpecker.	Direct action
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## Opportunity:

**OPP090** Restore Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) to broadleaf woodland to increase benefits to biodiversity.

## Measures (Actions):

<b>M90.1</b>	Implement a gradual / phased approach to restoration, using appropriate resilient broadleaf species, that safeguards the sites remaining features and species in accordance with the UK Forestry Standard.	Direct action
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## Opportunity:

**OPP091** Enhance existing alder wet woodland sites, and expand if possible, to ensure this rare habitat continues.

## Measures (Actions):

<b>M91.1</b>	Identify existing sites and encourage positive management, including additional planting and coppicing to increase structure and age diversity.	Direct action
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## Opportunity:

**OPP092** Create Atlantic rainforest to expand this rare habitat.

## Measures (Actions):

<b>M92.1</b>	Identify suitable locations, buy / lease land to create Atlantic rainforest.	Direct action
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## Opportunity:

**OPP098** Create a mosaic of habitats with improved species and structural diversity within all productive woodland and forest types. Buffer productive woodland types including conifer / mixed and broadleaved to provide additional habitat and soften landscape impact.

## Measures (Actions):

<b>M98.1</b>	Create new and buffer existing woodland with appropriate planting in accordance with UK Forestry Standard for a range of target species e.g. nightjar, adder, woodlark, tree pipit, red squirrel, turtle dove. Encourage natural regeneration where possible.	Direct action
<b>M98.2</b>	Identify locations where target species are present and maintain a range of clear-fell areas to increase the space within woodlands for these species.	Direct action
<b>M98.3</b>	Provide more, improved and coordinated guidance on management of types of all productive woodlands and forest.	Enabling activity

<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP100</b> Enhance and expand existing juniper sites to support resilience and long-term retention of this species.		
Measures (Actions):		
<b>M100.1</b>	Identify existing Juniper sites.	Enabling activity
<b>M100.2</b>	Propagate from seeds and cuttings, but ensure they are returned to original site.	Direct action
<b>M100.3</b>	Implement sympathetic moorland management to prevent loss of Juniper sites from controlled burning or wildfire.	Direct action
<b>M100.4</b>	Include appropriately sourced Juniper into woodland creation schemes very near to existing Juniper population.	Direct action
<b>M100.5</b>	Conduct research to understand any factors preventing natural juniper regeneration that may affect establishment of juniper by natural or introduced means.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP101</b> Actively manage tree health of larch for Phytophthora ramorum, re-stocking where necessary, to provide a resilient larch woodland resource.		
Measures (Actions):		
<b>M101.1</b>	Identify high-risk sites for Phytophthora ramorum and develop risk-based approach for the reduction of larch as a component within stands as per recommendations of UKFS that no more than 65% of the area is allocated to a single species.	Direct action
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP103</b> Sustainably manage all woodland and forest types over a longer period of time and across multiple sites to increase woodland management activity that can support nature recovery.		
Measures (Actions):		
<b>M103.1</b>	Through delivery organisations in North Yorkshire support landowners to create woodland management plans to UK Forestry Standard. Establish a tiered system with additional resources and support for high-value woodland.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP107</b> Increase the number of trees in the landscape to benefit biodiversity, landscape character and access to nature.		
Measures (Actions):		
<b>M107.1</b>	Promote the value of small-scale tree planting and woodland creation where large-scale opportunities are limited.	Enabling activity

## 7. Water and wetlands (WET)

### Opportunity:

**OPP059** Enhance urban waterways and canals for increased benefits to wildlife, improve water quality and support natural flood management.

### Measures (Actions):

<b>M59.1</b>	Implement wildlife enhancements to urban waterways and canals. Use formal and informal mechanisms to increase awareness of the importance of urban waterways and canals to wildlife.	Direct action
<b>M59.2</b>	Map canal and urban waterway network and identify adjacent wetland sites, ponds etc. where removal of canal infrastructure (e.g. culverts) and more sympathetic management of marginal and bank vegetation could be achieved. This will provide increased connectivity of wetland sites via the canal network.	Enabling activity

### Opportunity:

**OPP063** Manage designed water bodies such as recreational lakes to include new wetland habitats, to support wildlife and improve health and wellbeing.

### Measures (Actions):

<b>M63.1</b>	Identify designed lakes where suitable wildlife management could be implemented.	Enabling activity
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### Opportunity:

**OPP064** Create and manage new lakes on former gravel pits with suitably vegetated margins to benefit wildlife.

### Measures (Actions):

<b>M64.1</b>	Create suitable habitat in gravel pits and manage after extraction ceases to create high quality habitat for nature.	Direct action
<b>M64.2</b>	Map existing mineral extraction lakes in the Lower Ure and Swale valleys and identify suitable adjacent arable land for converting the wet grassland.	Enabling activity

### Opportunity:

**OPP065** Manage natural lakes to reduce nutrient inputs, and improve their shorelines to improve water quality and biodiversity.

### Measures (Actions):

<b>M65.1</b>	Working with utilities, land managers and associated advisors follow best agricultural and land management practice (UK FS) to address eutrophication, chemical pollution and sedimentation problems at source. Building on existing information from Water Framework Directive and Humber River Basin Management Plan.	Direct action
<b>M65.2</b>	Better protection and buffering of shoreline and marginal habitats to counteract damage from recreational use (e.g. tufted loosertrife).	Direct action
<b>M65.3</b>	Raise awareness of the impacts of recreational use on water quality and shoreline habitats.	Enabling activity

<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP066</b> Create farmland scrapes as small ephemeral ponds within suitable existing habitat to increase biodiversity and support wading bird populations.		
Measures (Actions):		
<b>M66.1</b>	Identify suitable farmland and existing habitat for the creation of scrapes, giving consideration to the number and size (many small scrapes may be better for species diversity, but single large scrape may be better for breeding waders). Scrapes are unsuitable on floodplain land.	Direct action
<b>M66.2</b>	Promote the use of farmland scrapes to land managers and their advisors. Scrapes are unsuitable on floodplain land.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP074</b> Enhance, expand and connect areas of lowland raised bog.		
Measures (Actions):		
<b>M74.1</b>	Use peat maps to identify former extent of peat resource and understand ability to restore active hydrological processes to identify areas where lowland raised bog has been lost, and where peat formation could be re-started.	Enabling activity
<b>M74.2</b>	Actively manage water levels to raise them, e.g. re-wet areas by creating ponds, retain water by blocking existing watercourses.	Direct action
<b>M74.3</b>	Reduce nutrient input in buffer zone surrounding lowland raised bogs.	Direct action
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP075</b> Increase good quality marginal habitat, to connect priority wetland habitats.		
Measures (Actions):		
<b>M75.1</b>	Where suitable, change dredging regimes to allow for the growth of marginal vegetation (also applies to rivers and drainage ditches).	Direct action
<b>M75.2</b>	Raise awareness about changing farming practices that may increase marginal vegetation, such as the use of appropriate buffer strips, exclusion of livestock grazing, management of herbivores along bank edges, INNS management, tree planting along river edges (taking account of tree health issues).	Enabling activity
<b>M75.3</b>	Where suitable, introduce key specialist plant species in marginal vegetation.	Direct action
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP079</b> Create new and maintain existing reedbeds to support key species.		
Measures (Actions):		
<b>M79.1</b>	Create reedbed and expand existing reedbed at mineral extraction sites and consider as a component of aftercare on new sites (using locally propagated material) to support key species (e.g. bittern, crane, water beetles, moths).	Direct action
<b>M79.2</b>	Maintain quality of existing reedbed resource through suitable cutting and grazing regimes.	Direct action
<b>M79.3</b>	Restore the Whitby / Ruswarp Bats reedbed (SINC).	Direct action

<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP113</b> Reduce urban diffuse and point-source pollution in urban waterways to improve water quality for biodiversity.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M113.1</b>	Develop litter picking initiatives.	Enabling activity
<b>M113.2</b>	Reporting, identification and enforcement action when pollution events take place.	Enabling activity
<b>M113.3</b>	Advice to homeowners and industrial estates on how to avoid polluting waterbodies.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP124</b> Connect existing sites of purple moorgrass pastures.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M124.1</b>	Map existing Purple Moorgrass meadows (M24) as this is a potentially under-recorded habitat. It is associated with springs and flushes, so cannot be created. Survey existing sites to establish typical plant communities.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP128</b> Identify the location of and maintain existing tufa sites to protect this unusual habitat.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M128.1</b>	Identify sites and monitor their water quality.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP133</b> Restore, enhance and connect existing riparian buffer strips to help buffer potential sources of water pollution and provide shading for aquatic species.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M133.3</b>	Identify source locations of pollution (road run-off, silt pathways and point source pollution) and work with Highway authorities, utilities and land managers to address problems at source. Mitigate residual problem. Building on existing information from WFD and Humber RBMP.	Enabling activity
<b>M133.5</b>	Use EA's Riparian shading opportunity map to identify suitable sites where biggest impact could be made.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP134</b> Reduce sources of agricultural, sewage and plastic pollution across North Yorkshire and York to improve the water quality of our river systems.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M134.1</b>	Encourage land managers to adopt sustainable agriculture, through appropriate nutrient management or changes to farming systems.	Enabling activity
<b>M134.2</b>	Improve agricultural infrastructure to minimise risk of nutrient input into rivers.	Direct action
<b>M134.4</b>	Support and deliver an annual programme of River Cleans (litter picks) through volunteering and community groups.	Direct action

<b>M134.6</b>	Engage and educate the public on what not to 'flush' to reduce sewer blockages and CSO discharges,	Enabling activity
<b>M134.7</b>	Engage and educate the public on how to manage and maintain septic tanks and private micro sewage treatments plants, to ensure compliance and optimum performance.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP141</b> Increase monitoring to provide evidence to inform decision making around aquatic habitats.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M141.1</b>	Utilise citizen science to increase the locations where monitoring is undertaken.	Enabling activity
<b>M141.2</b>	Ongoing and rolling programme of investigative monitoring campaigns to focus and direct efforts for aquatic habitat improvements.	Enabling activity
<b>M141.3</b>	Create a central monitoring plan that enables collaboration between stakeholders to provide more evidence to inform decision making.	Enabling activity
<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP142</b> Engage with stakeholders, schools and the general public on restoring natural river processes to encourage nature recovery and wider benefits.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M142.1</b>	Specific outreach to IDBs.	Enabling activity
<b>M142.2</b>	Farm advisers engaging with farmers and land managers (farm clusters) (important to link to ELMs).	Enabling activity
<b>M142.3</b>	Demonstration / examples to assist engagement e.g. re-meandering of River Ure near Ripon following flood events; Cropton enclosure - Beaver reintroduction; Denton Estate, Wharfedale; engagement with York Consortium IDB.	Enabling activity
<b>M142.4</b>	Engagement officers (e.g. Ryevitalise partnership, NYMNPA) undertaking outreach at agricultural shows, in schools, and setting up citizen science projects, working with volunteer groups.	Enabling activity
<b>M142.5</b>	Maintain legacy of current engagement programmes.	Enabling activity
<b>M142.6</b>	Ensuring natural river processes is included in future Natural History GCSE syllabus (expected launch September 2026).	Enabling activity
<b>M142.7</b>	Establish opportunities for increased apprenticeship / internship options within NGOs (e.g. Lower Ure Conservation Trust internship from May 2024).	Enabling activity
<b>M142.8</b>	Allow scientific study of rivers, and associated habitats, for schools and colleges.	Enabling activity



Opportunity:

**OPP145** Manage human processes that impact on the natural functioning of rivers.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M145.1</b>	Manage abstraction.	Direct action
<b>M145.2</b>	Controlling and regulating hydropower installations.	Direct action

Opportunity:

**OPP146** Manage the natural function and dynamics of river channels.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M146.1</b>	Improving connectivity between rivers and groundwater.	Direct action
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Opportunity:

**OPP147** Highlight the importance of springs and seepages in North Yorkshire which are a threatened habitat with associated specialist species.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M147.1</b>	Create an inventory of spring and seepage sites both existing and historic, with publicity of their importance, with advice and support to land managers to preserve them, and hopefully re-establish lost ones.	Enabling activity
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## 8. Urban (URB)

Opportunity:

**OPP115** Connect natural features severed by road and rail corridors.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M115.1</b>	Work with network rail and national highways to explore suitability of green bridges e.g. Sand Hutton, Crockey Hill, York ring road.	Enabling activity
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Opportunity:

**OPP116** Enhance and expand where possible brownfield sites with invertebrate and specialist plant interest.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M116.1</b>	Map brownfield sites across urban areas.	Enabling activity
<b>M116.2</b>	Commission habitat surveys using appropriate typology and species surveys for the identification of rare and endangered species interest, esp. invertebrates.	Enabling activity
<b>M116.3</b>	Register valuable sites with the planning authorities to ensure that nature conservation issues are considered effectively through the planning system (through the Local Plan site allocation and planning application processes).	Enabling activity
<b>M116.4</b>	Where brownfield sites are to be lost, ensure that the specialist habitats they support are replicated in alternative locations.	Direct action
<b>M116.5</b>	Encourage purposeful creation of open mosaic habitat in linear corridors or urban edges and in combination with green infrastructure strategies to address loss of such habitats to development and to ensure trading rules are met in regard to BNG.	Direct action

Opportunity:

**OPP119** Create habitat on underutilised existing green infrastructure to increase habitat diversity and habitat mosaics.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M119.1</b>	Make use of the Wild York mapping to co-ordinate the local habitat creation projects in York.	Enabling activity
<b>M119.2</b>	Promote techniques, such as Miyawaki tree planting, to add space-effective new habitat features in existing underutilised and undervalued areas of green space.	Enabling activity

<b>Opportunity:</b> <b>OPP121</b> Increase the tree canopy and woodland cover in the urban environment to provide better connectivity through the urban environment and support other environmental and social outcomes.		
<b>Measures (Actions):</b>		
<b>M121.1</b>	Use green streets design principles to engage with local authority teams (e.g. Tree officers, GI Managers, Highways Officers) on where trees can be planted in development and maintenance regimes and to overcome perceived barriers to the planting of urban trees.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.2</b>	Promote the multiple benefits of street-tree planting and maintenance within planning teams, including urban cooling, air quality and other environmental and social outcomes.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.3</b>	Engage with local interest groups and NGOs to encourage and promote street-tree planting.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.4</b>	Facilitate design solutions to accommodate underground constraints.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.5</b>	Set a county-wide tree canopy target of 16% for settlements and create delivery plans to achieve this target.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.6</b>	Promote successional planting of urban trees to create a diverse age structure e.g. through phased removal of avenued trees, planting of future veterans.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.7</b>	Identify areas where changes in management may be appropriate to increase tree cover and benefit pollinators. Use resilient species appropriate for an urban environment.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.8</b>	Develop supplementary planning guidance to inform appropriate species mixes and design guides to enhance the urban treescape.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.9</b>	Develop community (and private household) focused guidance to inform appropriate species mixes and design guides to enhance the urban treescape.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.10</b>	Develop overarching tree strategies to be part of green infrastructure strategies for North Yorkshire and York.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.11</b>	Retain dead and decaying features as part of urban tree management e.g. log piles, standing deadwood.	Direct action
<b>M121.12</b>	Set a tree canopy target of 30% for new housing developments in Local Plans and ensure developers help to achieve these.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.13</b>	Conduct a tree equity assessment of all urban and peri-urban areas in North Yorkshire to ascertain which areas of the county should be targeted by urban tree planting.	Enabling activity
<b>M121.14</b>	Improve the multi-dimensional design and management of urban woodland to restore improved natural functionality. Put together multi-disciplinary teams to support local adaptation and resilience.	Enabling activity

## 9. Coast (CST)

Opportunity:

**OPP150** Enhance areas of soft coastal cliffs for the benefit of terrestrial wildlife and public enjoyment.

Measures (Actions):

<b>M150.1</b>	Identify potential areas for coastal habitat creation in close collaboration with local organisations and communities, taking into account site usage, cliff proximity and scale.	Enabling activity
<b>M150.2</b>	Establish new habitats and monitor for wildlife population improvements, where appropriate.	Direct action
<b>M150.3</b>	Collate existing data on species and processes reliant on sediment shores (intertidal and subtidal) and create a natural capital account for the habitat e.g. carbon sequestration.	Enabling activity
<b>M150.4</b>	Map existing and planned human infrastructure on or across sediment shores (intertidal and subtidal) and work with regulators to explore mitigation opportunities for new developments, particularly taking account of the carbon sequestration potential.	Enabling activity
<b>M150.5</b>	Enhance the coastal margin (all land seaward of the King Charles III England Coast Path) to improve conditions and spaces for nature, and for people to connect with nature, on the National Trail.	Direct action
<b>M150.6</b>	Boost the population of Dyer's Greenweed (England RDB Vulnerable Species) on North Yorkshire coastal cliffs, via seed collection or cuttings and introduced on RHB Rocky Foreshore Hillside.	Direct action