

**Scottish Biodiversity Strategy - Route Map to 2020**  
**Delivery Agreement 2015-2018**  
**Scottish Natural Heritage**

**Introduction**

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) is the Scottish Government agency for nature conservation in Scotland. Our work makes a significant contribution to delivery of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy *2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity* and the implementation of the SBS Route Map to 2020. This statement is our delivery agreement with Scottish Government for this work.

**Background**

The statutory purposes of SNH are to:

- secure the conservation and enhancement of nature and landscapes;
- foster their understanding and facilitate their enjoyment; and
- promote their sustainable use and management.

The current SNH Corporate Strategy (2015-2018) sets out our priorities for the next three years within the policy and financial framework provided by the Scottish Government. In keeping with the SBS, its starting point is that "Scotland's natural assets are a superb inheritance that sustains all our lives and well-being". The work set out in the strategy seeks to improve the management of this inheritance and increase the range of benefits it provides for all of Scotland's people.

SNH is focused on being 'smaller, smarter and more influential' and therefore the need to work in partnership with other organisations and to collaborate is greater than ever. SNH has a long history of collaboration with many organisations, communities and land managers. We have regular contact with over one hundred national organisations and many hundreds of community, land owners and local organisations. Through working in partnership with all of these we are able to, collectively, deliver more for biodiversity.

**Delivering the SBS 2020 Challenge and Route Map to 2020**

The 2020 Challenge and the Route Map to 2020 provide a common vision and a set of clear priorities for RAFF (Rural Affairs, Food and Environment) and other key stakeholders to work together in order to realise the outcomes of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy 2020 Challenge. Our contribution to this work is as follows

1) Delivery

At present, SNH has a key role in the delivery of this route map and is the lead body for over 30 of the actions brigaded under the 12 Priority Projects in the Route Map to 2020.

Through grant aid, SNH also supports others to deliver a range of biodiversity and community based projects identified in the Route Map. In 2014/15, our grant aid to national and local organisations, communities and groups for this work (excluding the Peatland Project) totalled some £5.2 million. While this is expected to decline in future years as budgets tighten, funding will remain an important means of delivering the many biodiversity outcomes sought through the collaboration, work and creativity of our partners.

SNH has identified what our specific contribution will be to each Priority Project and linked this to the Key Deliverables we identify in our annual business plan (see Table 1.). Progress on these key deliverables will be reported to SNH Management Team and Board each quarter with steps taken to rectify delays or other issues that emerge which impact on delivery.

## 2) Leadership

In addition to delivery, we have been given the leadership role by Scottish Government in ensuring delivery of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and the Route Map to 2020. This role includes the following components.

- **Develop the details of the planned and future work highlighted in the Route Map.**

SNH has been asked to work with partners to drive forward and coordinate the delivery of the planned work highlighted in the Route Map, as well as associated delivery agreements.

SNH will, in liaison with partners, undertake work to identify issues where further work might be required to help meet the 2020 biodiversity targets. Proposals for areas of further work will be submitted to the Scottish Government for agreement as part of the first annual progress report and will thereafter be kept under review.

SNH clearly recognises that it needs to engage and enthuse stakeholders in this work. Collaborative working, more effective ways of working, and new thinking and practice within and across policy sectors is essential if we are to make the step change needed for biodiversity. A range of delivery structures will be needed to do this which SNH will put in place once Scottish Government has confirmed new governance arrangements. For now, the priority work of the existing delivery groups will continue and SNH will chair a new co-ordination group of key government agencies who lead on the priority projects. We will also host an annual stakeholder event and continue to support the LBAP network.

- **Measure and Report on Progress.**

Using principles of programme and project management, SNH will establish and maintain effective monitoring and reporting arrangements so that progress towards the delivery of the Big Steps and Priority Projects can be articulated clearly.

SNH will provide a comprehensive annual progress report to the Scottish Government. Such reporting will highlight impediments to progress in order to secure support through RAFF in addressing any issues identified. The timing of this reporting and the group to which reports are to be made will be confirmed once the current governance review is completed. A half yearly interim report focused on progress of the actions in the route map will also be made to a new Biodiversity Co-ordination Group, which SNH will chair.

An assessment of delivery risk will be an important element of the regular reporting. As part of this reporting, SNH will identify areas of slippage and, through the SBS co-ordination group and the relevant stakeholder/s, the work required to rectify these.

Starting in June 2016, SNH will also report on an assessment of the achievement of each of the Aichi targets.

SNH will update the Route Map, for example to incorporate the agreed details of changes to existing activities or to include new areas of work that are considered necessary.

- **Communication**

SNH will develop and implement a communication and engagement plan for the Route Map, working with the SBS co-ordination group, to inform and enthuse stakeholders and the general public about the 2020 Challenge, what it means to them and how they can contribute to it.

Key deliverables covering this leadership role have been identified and will be reported through the quarterly review of the business plan alongside the key deliverables for the priority projects.

### **Review and updating of this delivery agreement**

This delivery agreement will be updated each year as the business plan is developed. An internal Biodiversity Steering Group (Chaired by the Director of Policy and Advice) has been established to oversee the delivery of the work identified within the Delivery Agreement with Scottish Government and ensure we have the supportive policy, projects and research in place to do this.

**Scottish Natural Heritage  
December 2015**

**Table 1. SNH contribution to Route Map to 2020 Priority Projects**

Route map to 2020 - Priority Projects	SNH contribution
<p><b>Priority Project 1 - Restoration of peatlands</b></p> <p><b>On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restore peatland and sequester carbon through 107 peatland management agreements and grants awarded across Scotland covering 5,100 ha.</li> <li>Flow Country Peatland Restoration – establish an international benchmark for good practice.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>National Peatland Plan</i> published in 2015 and implementation begun.</li> <li>Peatland restoration demonstration - 15 events for land managers and communities across Scotland.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016<sup>i</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KD 83 Support the Scottish Peatland Group to deliver the National Peatland Plan, which seeks to ensure peatlands are valued much more highly and prized for their many benefits.</li> <li>KD 82 Support peatland restoration by providing advice to land managers and developing demonstration sites.</li> <li>KD 19 Delivery of a number of natural heritage projects including: Peatland restoration on Flanders and Blawhorn Mosses; heathland management improvements at Dinnet; initiate restructuring of pinewood plantations at Beinn Eighe.</li> <li>S11 Condition of notified habitats.</li> <li>KD 79 Progress the Route Map for restoring 15% of degraded ecosystems, focused on building natural capital and enhancing ecosystem services and support the application of an ecosystems approach to land-use decision making.</li> <li>Project 15239 ‘Flow to the Future’ - Improved peatland habitats for maintaining and increasing carbon storage within the Flow Country.</li> </ul> <p><b>2016-2018<sup>ii</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KD 83 Support the Scottish Peatland Group to deliver the National Peatland Plan, which seeks to ensure peatlands are valued much more highly and prized for their many benefits.</li> <li>KD 82 Support peatland restoration by providing advice to land managers and developing demonstration sites.</li> <li>KD 43 Completion of the extensions to the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands SAC and SPA.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority Project 2 - Restoration of native woodlands</b></p> <p><b>On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of grants, information, promotional events</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KD 45 Work with Scottish Government and partners to ensure delivery of schemes under the SRDP 2014-20 (including Agri-</li> </ul>

<p>and training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation management on the National Forest Estate.</li> <li>• Development of Deer Management Plans with public interest targets to contribute to the overall aim of native woodland restoration.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement <i>Scotland's Wild Deer: A National Approach</i>.</li> <li>• Establish further mechanisms for lowland deer management.</li> <li>• Atlantic Woodland Restoration - through rhododendron removal and conservation management (Life funding bid in progress).</li> <li>• Atlantic hazelwood conservation and management</li> </ul>	<p>environment Climate Scheme, Forestry Grant scheme, Environment Co-Operation Scheme, Advisory Services, and access provisions).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S11 Condition of notified habitats.</li> <li>• KD 64 Implement priority actions in the first new 'Wild Deer a National Approach' Action Plan, including working with Deer Management Groups to strengthen their performance and accelerate their delivery of effective Deer Management Plans; revision of policy on deer fences; review of Competence measures; begin evaluation of the Deer Code.</li> <li>• KD 79 Progress the Route Map for restoring 15% of degraded ecosystems, focused on building natural capital and enhancing ecosystem services and support the application of an ecosystems approach to land-use decision.</li> </ul> <p><b>2016-2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue KD 64 above.</li> <li>• Deer in and around towns (project 13885).</li> <li>• Work beyond 2016 will be determined by Deer Code evaluation and outcomes of RACCE review.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority Project 3 - Restoration of fresh waters</b></p> <p><b>On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and Implementation of two River Basin Management Plans for the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle (2015-2021) – delivering Water Framework Directive objectives and associated biodiversity benefits.</li> <li>• Physical restoration of rivers in priority catchments as part of the Pearls in Peril Life Project to deliver</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 33 Provide input on marine and coastal issues for the development of Phase 2 WFD River Basin Management Plans</li> <li>• KD 78 Work with SEPA to improve the role that River Basin Management Planning places in improving ecosystem health, particularly safeguarding the Nature features.</li> <li>• Freshwater pearl mussel LIFE+ project (Project 13795).</li> <li>• KD 79 Progress the Route Map for restoring 15% of degraded</li> </ul>

<p>substantial biodiversity benefits and restore river function.</p> <p><b>Planned work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a community-based, riparian invasive non-native species (INNS) project over approximately 29,500 square km of Northern Scotland. Development of catchment scale long-term control with a focus on freshwaters will reduce the economic, social and environmental impacts of INNS in the long term (HLF stage 1 bid submitted).</li> <li>• Focused measures on priority catchments for diffuse pollution with associated biodiversity benefits.</li> <li>• Physical restoration of 4 pilot catchments with associated biodiversity benefits.</li> <li>• Contribute to IUCN <i>River Restoration and Biodiversity</i> project.</li> </ul>	<p>ecosystems, focused on building natural capital and enhancing ecosystem services and support the application of an ecosystems approach to land-use decision making.</p> <p><b>2016-2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project 15659 HLF bid for INNS in N. Scotland progressing to Stage 2 submission.</li> <li>• KD 78 Work with SEPA to improve the role that River Basin Management Planning places in improving ecosystem health, particularly safeguarding the Natura features.</li> <li>• KD 92 Complete a vulnerability assessment of freshwater features on protected sites, applying the lessons learnt from this to other features such as upland, woodland and coastal.</li> <li>• Project 15211 River restoration and biodiversity – Phase 2</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority Project 4 - Investment in natural capital</b></p> <p><b>On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the Woodland Carbon Code to attract investment in woodland creation.</li> <li>• Developing the Peatland Code as a framework for investing in peatland restoration.</li> <li>• Developing the Natural Capital Asset Index (NCAI) as means of assessing Scotland's natural capital and maintaining the sustainability of the Scottish economy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify opportunities for new investment by business in green infrastructure, especially in the CSGN area.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 57 Update of the Natural Capital Asset Index and the publication of its results for the second World Forum on Natural Capital.</li> </ul>

**Priority Project 5 - More people experiencing and enjoying nature**

**On-going work**

- Supporting the better provision and quality of greenspace through development planning and place-making.
- Delivering national and local participation campaigns, events and activities and outreach work targeted at under-represented groups.
  
- Developing more opportunities for public engagement in volunteering & citizen science through Scotland Counts and SEWeb.

**Planned work**

- Better provision of information on opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, including the development of a national web portal to the natural environment.
  
- Delivering the National Walking and Cycling Network and promoting its use by the public.

**2105-2016**

- KD 68 Ensure Planning Authorities understand the need for green infrastructure to support successful place-making and work closely with them to clearly identify existing green networks.
- KD 9 The environment and physical activity are an integral part of the new national Place Standard and in other design initiatives (including development frameworks, briefs and master plans).
- KD 3 Lead, with partners, the implementation of the agreed project plan for the National Walking & Cycling Network, including Scotland's Great Trails.
- KD 13 Implement agreed actions in the National Walking Strategy and A More Active Scotland.
- KD 11 Make a clear, measurable contribution to achieving the national target of 50% of adults visiting the outdoors at least once a week through the provision of new recreation, volunteering and outdoor learning opportunities focussed on our target groups and areas.
- KD 118 KD 118 Completion of SEWeb Phase 1 and progression to Phase 2 – core and new projects.

**2016-2018**

- KD 16 Widen public awareness of places and opportunities to get outdoors through targeted, joined-up campaigns (based on health projects, local paths and places, and on the National Walking & Cycling Network) and by supporting the creation of a single web portal providing information on access to the natural environment.
- KD 3 Lead, with partners, the implementation of the agreed project plan for the National Walking & Cycling Network, including Scotland's Great Trails.
- KD 13 Implement agreed actions in the National Walking Strategy and A More Active Scotland.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of greenspace infrastructure in central Scotland through 2014-2020 Structural Funds Programme (funding bid in progress).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 2 Launch the ERDF green infrastructure scheme and secure improvements to the quality, quantity and accessibility of green infrastructure in the more deprived areas of Scotland.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority Project 6 - Taking learning outdoors</b></p> <p><b>On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing outdoor learning information and opportunities in National, Regional and Local Parks, Nature Reserves and the National Forest Estate.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support teachers through the network of Outdoor and Woodland Learning (OWL) groups and use Teaching in Nature and other similar programmes to ensure they are able to deliver outdoor learning in practice.</li> <li>• Develop and improve greenspace provision and opportunities for outdoor learning close to schools.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and improve greenspace provision and opportunities for outdoor learning close to schools in the most disadvantaged communities in Scotland.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 11 Make a clear, measurable contribution to achieving the national target of 50% of adults visiting the outdoors at least once a week through the provision of new recreation, volunteering and outdoor learning opportunities focussed on our target groups and areas.</li> <li>• KD 20 Delivery of a number of key visitor projects including an upgrade to arrival points at Flanders Moss and Craigellachie; path upgrades at Rum, Clyde Valley Woodlands and reviewing options for upgrades to visitor facilities at Forvie and Hermaness</li> <li>• KD 14 Contribute to the target of 100 schools in 20% most disadvantaged areas with access to green space for outdoor learning, and support teachers in developing the role of outdoor learning across the Curriculum for Excellence.</li> </ul> <p><b>2016-2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 14 Contribute to the target of 100 schools in 20% most disadvantaged areas with access to green space for outdoor learning, and support teachers in developing the role of outdoor learning across the Curriculum for Excellence.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority project 7 - Developing Scotland's <i>Natural</i> health service</b></p> <p><b>On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing and promoting a green exercise tool-kit for use by the health and environment sectors.</li> <li>• Delivering a NHS Greenspace Demonstration Project;</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 12 Develop an action plan, in partnership with the NHS and other partners, for delivering a "natural health service".</li> </ul>

<p>providing quality greenspace for use by patients, visitors and staff for treatment, recovery, recreation and relaxation</p> <p><b>Planned</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver 2nd phase of the NHS Greenspace Demonstration Project to complete mainstreaming of greenspace provision and use on the NHS estate.</li> <li>• Support better mapping, provision and use of green exercise opportunities as part of three area-based initiatives with health boards and local authorities to increase physical activity levels, improve mental health and tackle health inequalities.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2016-2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversee the implementation of the “natural health service” action plan agreed with RAFF delivery board and the NSGoPA, and work with target health boards, local authorities and communities across Scotland to deliver green exercise projects included in the plan (NHS green space, Green Exercise and social prescribing).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority Project 8 - Protected Areas’ in good condition On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focusing action on those sites that are in most need of effective conservation management.</li> <li>• Nature conservation designation covering 18% of land and freshwater to ensure protection of biodiversity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work towards improving the condition of protected sites in the longer term.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 37 DFC - Lead a partnership of public bodies and land managers to deliver the 80% target</li> <li>• KD 38 DFC - Monitor 460 SSSI/Natura features as part of the 3rd cycle of site condition monitoring and complete rapid assessments of another 430 features using our "Site Check" approach.</li> <li>• COMPLETED.</li> </ul> <p><b>2016-2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and enhance the proportion of our protected nature sites that are in favourable condition through implementation of the Delivering Favourable Condition Action Plan partnership with public bodies, NGOs and land managers.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority Project 9 - Conservation of priority species On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Freshwater Pearl Mussel management and reintroductions on 19 Special Areas for Conservation (SAC) in Scotland (and one each in England and Wales).</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project 13785 Freshwater pearl mussel LIFE+ Project.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Langholm Moorland Demonstration Project – sustainable management of red grouse, habitat, hen harriers and other wildlife.</li> <li>• Increasing abundance of ground nesting birds through the eradication of North American mink on the Outer Hebrides.</li> <li>• Removing black rats, and other remedial work, on Shiant islands to improve breeding seabirds.</li> <li>• Under PAWS<sup>iii</sup> implement action plan for hen harriers involving intelligence sharing, enforcement and awareness raising to combat wildlife crime.</li> <li>• Saving Scotland’s Red Squirrels Project – collaborative work with many landowners to safeguard the red squirrel population in stronghold ranges.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Scotland golden eagle reinforcement project initiated in 2015.</li> <li>• Wildcat action plan implemented.</li> <li>• Publish and implement a species framework for Scotland, enabling the setting of conservation and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 59 Building on the findings of our SAC’s evidence review, provide strong and supportive leadership for the Moorland Forum and its commissioned work to deliver the Understanding Predation project, and develop widely recognised best practice standards for moorland management. Project 10571 Langholm Moor Demonstration Project</li> <li>• KD 62 Support strategic control of invasive non-native vertebrates and co-ordinate or take action as appropriate in relation to new invasive non-native species (INNS) which pose serious risks and require rapid response to prevent and minimise their impact on biodiversity and socio-economic interests. 15171 Strategic mink control in northern Scotland.</li> <li>• Project 15542 Wildlife Crime Coordination Project.</li> <li>• KD 62 Support strategic control of invasive non-native vertebrates and co-ordinate or take action as appropriate in relation to new invasive non-native species (INNS) which pose serious risks and require rapid response to prevent and minimise their impact on biodiversity and socio-economic interests. 15212 Saving Scotland’s Red Squirrels – Phase 3.</li> </ul> <p><b>2016-2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 63 Take steps to conserve vulnerable or reintroduced species including the Scottish Wildcat and the Capercaillie through the relevant species action plans/frameworks, implementing a new Sea-eagle management scheme, and submit advice and respond to the Ministerial decision on the future status and management of Beavers in Scotland. Project 016402 South Scotland Golden Eagle Project. Project 015088 Wildcat Action – Heritage Lottery Project.</li> <li>• KD 60 Publish guidance on SNH’s approach to managing conflicts and approach to adaptive management of wildlife. Evaluate and</li> </ul>
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<p>management priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish Pollinator Strategy for Scotland.</li> <li>• Publish Plant Health Strategy for Scotland.</li> </ul>	<p>refine as necessary SNH's Wildlife Management Framework as a decision support tool.</p>
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<p><b>Priority Project 10 - Improving ecological connection</b></p> <p><b>On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat management to support connections for eight sites within the CSGN area through EcoCo Life project.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a national ecological network to enable characterisation of the nature of Scotland, and to help with the identification of priority areas for action on habitat restoration, creation and protection.</li> <li>• Develop integrated habitat 'opportunity' mapping for central Scotland and identify delivery mechanisms.</li> <li>• Provision of green infrastructure in central Scotland through Scotland's 2014-2020 Structural Funds Programme (ERDF application in progress).</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 79 Progress the Route Map for restoring 15% of degraded ecosystems, focused on building natural capital and enhancing ecosystem services and support the application of an ecosystems approach to land-use decision making. Project 13880 EcoCo LIFE+ - Ecological Coherence CSGN project.</li> </ul> <p><b>2016-2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch ERDF<sup>1</sup> Green Infrastructure scheme and secure improvements to the quality, quantity and accessibility of green infrastructure in the more deprived areas of Scotland. (Creating Better Places Activity).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority Project 11 - Sustainable land management</b></p> <p><b>On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeted support for sustainable land management practices under SRDP.</li> <li>• Support for biodiversity through the Ecological Focus Areas CAP greening requirements and cross</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 45 Work with Scottish Government and partners to ensure delivery of schemes under the SRDP 2014-20 (including Agri-environment Climate Scheme, Forestry Grant scheme, Environment Co-Operation Scheme, Advisory Services, and access provisions).</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> European Regional Development Fund

<p>compliance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Wildlife Estates Scotland (WES) Initiative.</li> <li>• Demonstration Farms - including Leaf Farms and Climate Change Focus farms.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for landscape-scale agri-environment management under the new SRDP Environmental Cooperation Action Fund.</li> <li>• Promotion of agri-environment and sustainable farming practices through the SRDP Farm Advisory Service and Scottish Rural Network.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeking EC approval to implement CAP greening through a certification scheme from 2016, including new nutrient efficiency measures on grassland farms.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand network of demonstration farms which support biodiversity. Demonstrate ways in which farming can sustain multiple benefits, and reverse the declines in vascular plants and specialist groups of invertebrates and birds.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project 014129 Wildlife Estates Scotland.</li> </ul> <p><b>2016-2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 76 Work with Scottish Government over the implementation of Common Agricultural Policy reform to maximise delivery of environmental outcomes.</li> <li>• KD 46 Support transition arrangements for the SRDP during 2015/16 (minimising impacts on natural heritage interests).</li> <li>• KD 48 Develop the capacity of staff in SNH to deliver the new schemes under the SRDP 2014-20 in accordance with the RPID/SNH SLA and SNH's own customer service standards.</li> <li>• KD 47 Influence the Scottish Government's Futures Programme to help ensure that the processes, systems and guidance being developed to deliver SRDP 2014-20 meet the requirements of our customers.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Priority project 12 - Increase environmental status of our seas</b></p> <p><b>On-going work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing the evidence base through setting and delivering surveillance/ monitoring strategy that will allow authoritative reporting of state and progress.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015-2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 27 to conduct a suite of Site Condition Monitoring at Arisaig, Maddy, Kilda, Rona and Mousa.</li> <li>• KD 28 through CAMERAs, agree Marine Monitoring Action Plan. KD 31 Provide input to the revision of the Scottish Marine Science Strategy.</li> <li>• KD 55 Produce the annual State of the Natural Heritage report and</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completing the suite of MPAs (including the additional NATURA sites) and agreeing and delivering measures for their effective management.</li> <li>• Putting in place Regional Marine Plans that incorporate provision for decision making that promotes ecological coherence between protected areas and safeguards priority marine features.</li> </ul>	<p>make this available on SEWeb.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD 25 to run effective public consultations on the new MPA proposals, draft SPAs, and harbour porpoise SACs, including reviewing responses and providing recommendations to Scottish Ministers post-consultation.</li> <li>• KD 32 Coordinate assessment of the inclusion of seabirds on the Priority Marine Features list.</li> <li>• KD 26 Provide management advice to Marine Scotland and other stakeholders, including on existing sites, proposed sites, and supporting MS officials in running an effective consultation on management proposals.</li> </ul>
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<sup>i</sup> Work identified in 2015-2016 is taken from the SNH Business Plan 2015-2016

<sup>ii</sup> Work identified in SNH Corporate Plan 2015-2018 and Activity Definition documents

<sup>iii</sup> PAWS – Partnership for Action Against Wildlife Crime Scotland