



Potential Policy Applications of Historic Data A Natural England Perspective

**Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining,
London**

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for people places and nature

What is Natural England ?

New Defra NDPB which combines the work of

English Nature

Rural Development Service

Landscape, Access and Recreation Division of
The Countryside Agency

When ?

1st October 2006



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Natural England will be a credible, independent, evidence-based organisation.

“Our views will always be based on the best available evidence and analysis” *NE Strategic Direction*

“We will have a robust evidence base in place to underpin all of our activities, accessible to both the organisation and our partners. This will be maintained and developed through ongoing monitoring and evaluation of delivery and a targeted programme of collaborative research.” *NE Strategic Direction*



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Natural England Strategic Objective 1.1

To conserve and enhance England's natural environment - including the landscape biodiversity, geology and soils, natural resources, cultural heritage and other features of the built and natural environment.

In order to help achieve this we will

Establish and develop a high quality evidence base to support the broad purpose of Natural England

Establish and develop relationships with the scientific and academic communities to ensure Natural England's reputation as a strong evidence-based champion for the natural environment.



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Natural England Strategic Target 1.1.5

Environmental outcomes from ES evaluated and reported on

Natural England Strategic Target 4.1.1

We will bring together the evidence about the current and future state of the natural environment and report on our findings in March 2008.



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Evaluation of Environmental Stewardship 1

The overall Environmental Stewardship objectives for landscape are:

To maintain and enhance characteristic landscape features and to restore characteristic landscape features appropriate to the local area.

To maintain and enhance the local distinctiveness of the landscape and to restore and create locally distinctive landscapes.



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Evaluation of Environmental Stewardship 2

The detailed Higher Level Scheme landscape objectives are

L1 : To conserve and strengthen landscape character by maintaining, restoring and re-creating landscape features and habitats at the farm / holding and area scale.

L2 : To maintain, restore and create boundaries and associated features characteristic of the local landscape.

L5 : To maintain, restore and create the character of pastoral landscapes including characteristic landscape features, habitats and vegetation mosaics.

L6 : To maintain, restore and create the landscape character of the uplands, including its vegetation mosaics and landscape features, especially open moorland and enclosed farmland.

L7 : To maintain, restore and create the character of landscapes exhibiting mixed crop patterns and mosaics of arable and grassland.



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Evaluation of Environmental Stewardship 3

The targeting, monitoring and evaluation of the ES landscape objectives will be based upon a sound evidence base.

Where is the evidence to inform the landscape objectives of the ES ? Large number of data on management and condition less on context

Can Historic Land Use data contribute to this evidence base ? Can such data inform on context ?