

Type 13

Fells and Scarp



This is an open extensive landscape between 500-900m AOD comprising moorland, plateaus, fells and scarps. This broad type incorporates areas of the North Pennines, Howgill, Shap and Middleton fells. There are few settlements. Upland raised bog and open moorland are distinctive. Woodland vegetation is minimal creating very open environments, which tend to be heavily grazed. The contours of the land are smooth and domed, and although steep sided, are sometimes interrupted by stone walls or fences.

Landscape sub types:

13a Scarps

13b Moorland, High Plateau

13c Fells

Sub type 13a

Scarps

Location

This landscape sub type runs along the western edge of the North Pennines and adjacent to the Yorkshire Dales National Park. A very small area of this type adjacent the Yorkshire Dales National Park meets the criteria for National Park designation and is being considered for designation in 2010/11.

Key Characteristics

- Horizontal outcrops of limestone and volcanic rock form distinct features
- Unimproved grassland dominates
- Steep slopes often filled with bracken and scrub
- Ghylls and gullies intersect the scarp and moorland
- Improved pasture on lower slopes
- Small fields bounded by stone walls

Physical character

This landscape is found predominantly on Carboniferous limestone with exposures of horizontal limestone outcrops. The limestone scarp is found in a small area between Cumrew to Newbiggin in the north and more extensively from Melmerby to Helbeck in the south. Around Dufton and Knock the Cross Fell Inlier forms distinctive conical pike features against the scarp. These are unique to this part of Cumbria.

Land cover and land use

North of Cumrew the scarp slopes rise gently from the limestone foothills. Most of the slopes are covered with unimproved grassland and wet and dry heath. In parts there is a matrix of small fields enclosed by stone walls. Outside the enclosures, slopes are sometimes heath-like with scrub and bracken. The slopes are sharply incised by streams and rivers and gully or ghyll features

frequently break the scarp and run down from the moorland top.

Woodland is generally scarce, but there are some areas of upland ash woodland around Brough. Small clumps of trees can also be found sheltering in ghylls or at the bottom of the slopes. There are some small areas of conifer plantations.

Rocky features are common including limestone pavements and scars and Whin Sill cliffs (eg High Cup Nick). At the southern extremity on some of the more inaccessible slopes there are remnants of ancient woodland.

There is virtually no settlement. A small area of the slopes above Warcop is part of an army training area, but the landscape still retains the open and undeveloped character of the rest of the sub type.

Ecology

The western scarp slopes of the Pennines are covered by large areas of limestone grassland, acid grassland, wet and dry heathland and bracken. Along the scarp edge there are exposures of both limestone and volcanic rock and screes and these, together with the associated areas of limestone grassland, support rare species such as alpine saxifrage and Teesdale violet. Species-rich springs and flushes are locally frequent on these steep slopes, as are areas of rush pasture. Small areas of peat bog are found in the northern areas.

Historic and cultural character

There is little modern settlement but there are some abandoned post-medieval farmsteads. The field system features intacks and parliamentary enclosure. There is evidence of coal and lead mining with surviving bell pits indicative of early coal mining on Stainmore.

Archaeological interest also includes relict prehistoric field systems and settlements.

Perceptual character

This landscape has an open, expansive and undeveloped character that gives a sense of remoteness. The open moorland and vast, uninterrupted skies add a sense of wildness. Changes to stormy and unsettled weather can bring a feeling of exposure and a greater sense of wildness and remoteness. Still, dry days can bring a feeling of tranquility in these undeveloped and natural feeling landscapes. Pockets of heather moorland and seasonal colour changes provide interest to the broad open moorland areas.

Sensitive characteristics or features

Steep limestone grassland slopes intersected by streams and ghylls and ghyll woodland and low lying wooded areas, and extensive areas of exposed geology are sensitive ecological areas that could be vulnerable to development. The tranquil character arising from the distinct lack of settlement and farms could be undermined by isolated developments. The open and expansive slopes are remote with a sense of wildness and character that is vulnerable to any forms of development.

Vision

The remote and diverse qualities of these upland landscapes will be conserved and enhanced. The heath and species rich grassland will be enhanced and sympathetic moorland management will be re-established. The remaining areas of semi-natural woodland will be conserved and enhanced, with ghyll side planting increased. Further coniferous planting on open moorland and slopes will be discouraged. Wetland areas will be conserved and enhanced. Traditional features such as patterns of stone walls, meadows and former ‘miner-farmer’ landscapes will be conserved. With regard to recreation and tourism, improved facilities for low key activities in selected locations will be provided offering good accessibility, protection of sensitive habitats and minimal intrusion

on the landscape. The open, unspoilt, uncluttered and wild qualities and characteristics of these landscapes will be maintained through resisting inappropriate and intrusive development; this could include vertical energy developments such as large wind turbines or pylons.

Changes in the Landscape

Over the next 10 – 20 years this landscape could be subject to the following changes or issues:

Managements Practices

- A fragile farming system subject to changing markets
- Over intensive grazing and agricultural improvement leading to loss of moorland vegetation to the detriment of wildlife.
- There could be further interest in afforestation if farming becomes more marginal and incentives are provided to support short rotation forestry.

Development

- Energy infrastructure developments and associated vertical structures such as, communication masts, pylons or large scale wind turbines could erode the open and remote character of the landscape.
- The further intensification of training at the Warcop Training Area could introduce incongruous features and threaten the remote, unspoilt character
- Small scale mining or quarrying has continued in a few places. Any further development could have major implications on landscape character particular if scarp slopes are affected.

Access and Recreation

- Public rights of way and areas of open access land provide a network of routes that enable quiet appreciation and enjoyment of the countryside. Ongoing maintenance is needed to support this network in the future.

Guidelines

Natural Features

- Encourage regeneration of suppressed heather through the active management of grouse moors including a reduction in stocking levels, control of bracken, phased cutting and controlled burning in

accordance with Natural England's Heather and Grass Burning Code.

- Maintain and enhance blanket bog through appropriate management including lowering stocking levels, ditch blocking and reviewing any moorland burning practices in accordance with Natural England and the Moorland Association's management plan template to prevent damage to underlying bog.
- Maintain and enhance areas of semi-natural grasslands and heath to enhance biological diversity including reduction in stocking levels.
- Restore allotment grasslands by ditch blocking, reducing grazing levels etc.
- Strongly discourage further agricultural improvement including ploughing, reseeding, application of fertiliser, liming or herbicide treatment.
- Maintain and enhance fell wetland including flushes, small tarns and bog pools. This may involve discouraging drainage schemes, preventing overgrazing or poaching by stock and controlling invasion by scrub.
- Protect ghylls or other deep valleys from stock to encourage the retention and expansion of tree cover and a diverse ground flora.
- Restore and reinforce remnant semi-natural woodland on scarp slopes.
- Improve the appearance of existing coniferous plantations including softening of geometric outlines, introduction of open space and increasing species diversity.
- Remove intrusive conifer blocks from open fell land as opportunities arise and resist new or significant extensions to coniferous plantations, especially in the moorland zone and on valley sides and scarps.
- Prevent infilling of minor gullies or sinkholes.
- Protect rocky outcrops, limestone pavement, scree and other rocky areas as open features by discouraging damage or removal and encouraging management of invading scrub.
- Manage and create species rich hay meadows. This may involve sensitively timed light grazing and late cutting to allow seeding, prevention of ploughing, cultivation, herbicide and fertiliser applications and re-seeding with an appropriate diverse mixture.
- Conserve and maintain historic structures such as field barns, farmhouses, mining structures and lime kilns. This may include protection from stock, removal of trees or scrub and carrying out structural repairs with archaeological advice.
- Conserve important spoil heaps and other earthworks.

Development

- Avoid development in remote, undeveloped, prominent and exposed areas that would degrade the landscape character. Particular developments that could cause harm include telecommunications masts, pylons, large scale wind turbines, and overhead transmission lines and telephone lines. Small scale wind turbines may be accommodated if visually and functionally related to and in proportion with existing used buildings.
- Resist major developments such as minerals or those involving permanent built structures including roads, embankments or dams that would erode the remote, undeveloped character.

Access and Recreation

- Improvements to the Pennine Way and other footpath or bridleway networks should be encouraged, including the laying of flags where necessary, better waymarking, improved gates and gaps and improved interpretation. All such work should use natural materials that harmonise with the landscape.
- Provision of sensitively designed small scale parking facilities for cars and buses in appropriate locations.
- Provide safety advice to those wishing to walk in remote areas, explore caves or old mines.
- Interpret the landscape, history and wildlife of the area to help promote its care and conservation.

Cultural Features

- Encourage joint measures for the sustainable management of common land.
- Encourage the conservation and repair of boundary walls to fields or large allotments where significant in historic or landscape terms (This applies mainly in I3A).
- The erection of fencing on open moorland is normally to be avoided.

Moorland, High Plateau

Location

This landscape sub type is found along the western side of the North Pennines and to the east of Kendal. A small area of this type to the east of Kendal meets the criteria for National Park designation and is being considered for designation in 2010/11.

Key Characteristics

- Fells, summits and moorland plateau
- Incised by deep valleys and ghylls
- Extensive areas of blanket bog
- Acid grassland and dwarf heath shrub provide contrast to bog
- Valley slopes have varied land cover

Physical character

This area is predominantly Carboniferous limestone which forms an extensive area of upland moorlands. Much of the moorland is plateau-like with numerous deep valleys and ghylls. There are several high fells and summits that are generally over 500m, rising to around 900m at places like Cross Fell. The summits in the west central section are the highest in the Pennine chain and dominate the adjacent scarp.

Land cover and land use

The majority of the area is covered in blanket bog and is interspersed with a mosaic of other vegetation. To the north dry dwarf shrub heath dominates, in the centre fen, marsh and swamp features abound. On the lower valley slopes limestone and acid grassland can be found. Where heather survives, managed grouse moors are a rare feature; otherwise the majority of the area is used for extensive sheep grazing with some ponies and hill cattle. The area is largely devoid of tree cover.

A major civil aircraft radar installation at Great Dunn Fell is the only intrusive man made feature which is visible from a wide area.

Ecology

These high Pennine moorlands are of international importance for their extensive blanket bogs and the breeding populations of moorland birds they support, including species such as golden plover, dunlin and hen harrier. These moors also support areas of upland heathland and acid grassland, together with limestone grasslands, species-rich springs and flushes with rare species such as marsh saxifrage, spring gentian and alpine forget-me-not. Several of the summits support montane heath communities and a range of rock and scree vegetation is present. On former lead mines, the spoil often supports a unique lead tolerant flora including alpine penny-wort and spring sandwort. Along the moorland edge there are large areas of rough pasture, including expanses of rush pasture. These moorland edges provide important habitat for black grouse. Further north, Geltsdale and Glendue SSSI is noted for its upland bird communities and moorland vegetation.

Historic and cultural character

This remains an unenclosed area, with no settlements or field systems and little of archaeological interest. Nineteenth century grouse pits occasionally feature in some areas. The southern part of the landscape contains extensive areas of common land including Ousby, Dutton and Murton fells, Stainmore, Winton and Kaber fells. Large parts of these commons are included within Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

Perceptual character

This landscape has a strong feeling of remoteness due to the lack of settlement and development. Its sweeping topography provides wide expansive views and uninterrupted skylines providing a sense of wildness. Changes in weather can reinforce the feeling of wildness, especially on stormy and unsettled days. In contrast on still, dry days there can be a feeling of tranquility.

Sensitive features or characteristics

Extensive areas of blanket bog interspersed by heather, fen, marsh and swamp are ecologically sensitive to some changes in land management. Grouse moors are a rare feature also sensitive to changes in land management. Wide, expansive views within the Pennines and almost total lack of man made structures and uninterrupted skylines are sensitive to vertical structures and other large scale development.

Vision

The remote and diverse qualities of these upland landscapes will be conserved and enhanced. The heath and species rich acidic grassland, natural features and habitats are all key features within this landscape and will be conserved and enhanced to improve landscape interest and ecological diversity. Sympathetic management of moorland areas will be re-established, grips will be blocked and natural processes will be left to develop where possible to retain the remote wild qualities. The remaining areas of semi-natural woodland will be conserved and enhanced while further coniferous planting on open moorland and slopes will be discouraged. With regard to recreation and tourism, improved facilities for low key activities in selected locations will be provided offering good accessibility, protection of sensitive habitats and minimal intrusion on the landscape. The open, unspoilt, uncluttered and wild qualities and characteristics of these landscapes will be conserved through resisting intrusive development which may impinge on these unique features; this could include vertical energy developments such as large scale wind turbines or pylons.

Changes in the Landscape

Over the next 10 – 20 years this landscape could be subject to the following changes or issues:

Climate Change

- Blanket bog has a high carbon sequestration potential. Good condition bog can help mitigate against adverse effects of climate change. Management practices might need to change to improve the condition of blanket bog and enhance its carbon sequestration potential.
- This area is heavily influenced by natural erosion processes. These could intensify with increased rainfall and extreme weather events. Land cover and management practices could be changed to make the landscape more robust to effects of climate change.

Management Practices

- A fragile farming system subject to changing markets.
- Over intensive grazing and agricultural improvement leading to loss of moorland and heathland vegetation and limestone grassland to the detriment of wildlife.
- There could be further interest in afforestation if farming becomes more marginal and incentives are provided for short rotation forestry in the future.
- An increase in moorland tracks for shooting activities has been seen in the North Pennines. These can sometimes create visually intrusive features and affect peatland conservation.
- Sound grouse management can contribute to the landscape character. Well managed peat burning can form part of the management regime. However some burning practices could damage the hydrological integrity of the peat and its vegetative cover.

Development

- Energy infrastructure developments and associated vertical structures such as, communication masts, pylons, large scale wind turbines or overhead transmission or telephone lines, and associated transport infrastructure could harm the open, undeveloped and wild character of the landscape.
- The further intensification of training at the Warcop Training Area could introduce incongruous features and threaten the remote, unspoiled character
- Small scale mining or quarrying has continued in a few places. Any further development could have major implications on landscape character particularly if scarp slopes are affected

Access and Recreation

- Public rights of way and areas of open access land provide a network of routes that enable quiet appreciation and enjoyment of the countryside. Ongoing maintenance is needed to support this network in the future.

Guidelines

Natural Features

- Regenerate suppressed heather through detailed management programmes including reduction of stocking levels, control of bracken, phased cutting and burning in accordance with Natural England's Heather and Grass Burning Code.
- Encourage joint measures for the sustainable management of common land.
- Maintain and enhance areas of semi-natural acidic grassland and heath to enhance biological diversity including reduction in stocking levels.
- Maintain limestone grassland through appropriate grazing regimes.
- Restore allotment grasslands by ditch blocking, reducing grazing levels etc.
- Strongly discourage further agricultural improvement including ploughing, reseeding, application of fertiliser, liming or herbicide treatment.
- Maintain and enhance blanket bog through appropriate management including lowering stocking levels, ditch blocking and reviewing any burning practices.
- Maintain other fell wetland including flushes, small tarns and bog pools by discouraging inappropriate drainage schemes, preventing over/under grazing or poaching by stock and by controlling scrub encroachment.

Cultural Features

- Manage and create species rich hay meadows. This may involve sensitively timed light grazing and late cutting to allow seeding, prevention of ploughing, cultivation, herbicide and fertiliser applications and re-seeding with an appropriate diverse mixture.
- Conserve and maintain historic structures such as field barns, farmhouses, mining structures and lime kilns. This may include protection from stock, removal of trees or scrub and carrying out structural repairs with archaeological advice.

- Encourage the removal of eyesores and derelict sites of no historic interest. Conserve important spoil heaps and other earthworks.
- Encourage the conservation and repair of boundary walls to fields or large allotments where significant in historic or landscape terms (This applies mainly in 13A).
- The erection of fencing on open moorland is normally to be avoided.

Development

- Avoid development in remote, open, prominent and exposed areas that would degrade the landscape character. Particular developments that could cause harm include telecommunications masts, pylons, large scale wind turbines, and overhead transmission lines and telephone lines. Domestic scale wind turbines may be accommodated if visually and functionally related to and in proportion with existing used buildings.
- Resist major developments such as minerals or those involving permanent built structures including roads, embankments or dams.

Access and Recreation

- Improvements to the Pennine Way and other footpath or bridleway networks should be encouraged, including the laying of flags where necessary, better waymarking, improved gates and gaps and improved interpretation. All such work should use natural materials that harmonise with the landscape.
- Provision of sensitively designed small scale parking facilities for cars and buses in appropriate locations.
- Interpret the landscape, history and wildlife of the area and thus promote its care and conservation. Provide safety advice to those wishing to walk in remote areas, explore caves or old mines.

Location

This landscape sub type forms an extension of the Lake District Fells around Shap, and extension of the Howgill Fells. It also includes extensive areas around Orton and Ravenstondale Fells and Middleton Fell south of Sedbergh. The sub type continues into the Lake District national park and is classified as Type F— Rugged/ Craggy Volcanic High Fell in the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment. The landscape character continues into the Yorkshire Dales National Park where it is characterised as the Southern Howgill Fells Character Area and the Three Peaks and Central Moors and Fells Character Area. All of this type meets the criteria for National Park designation and is being considered for designation in 2010/11.

Key Characteristics

- Rugged, steep sided, round topped hills and ridges
- Deeply incised valleys and ghylls
- Rocky cliffs, scree and outcrops
- Open expansive rough grass, heath and bracken
- Enclosed pasture at lower levels
- Complex network of streams
- Some wooded ghylls and remnant broadleaved woodlands
- Lower lying edges of the central Lakeland High Fells
- Panoramic views

Physical character

Geologically, these fells and ridges are extensions of either the Lake District Fells or the Pennines and rise to around 700m AOD.

The Lake District extensions comprise the Howgills, Shap Fells and Middleton Fells. They are developed on Silurian grey sandstones and siltstones (Coniston Grit). The rocks have eroded to form steep sided rounded

hills with deeply incised valleys and gills. There are occasional rocky crags, waterfalls and dramatic steep slopes with scree and boulders, particularly on the northern and eastern flanks. The outer fells or 'knotts' are knobbly in outline with rocky outcrops.

In Pennine extensions like Wild Boar Fell and High Barbon Fell, Carboniferous limestone capped by millstone grit produces more angular, stepped outlines. Rocky cliffs and scree occur on steep scarp slopes with softer dip slopes. Streams cut across the landscape. Caves, other karst features and various natural and engineered rock exposures are evident.

Land cover and land use

The fells are mainly covered by moorland, rough grass, bracken and wet rushes. Remnant patches of heather survive on some fells. Generally there is little or no tree cover. A few lower slopes and fells include areas of coniferous plantations. These often reflect the landscape form and leave craggy rocks exposed on upper slopes.

Lower slopes tend to be enclosed by stone walls as large fields or allotments of semi-improved pasture. Tree cover is more extensive here, largely found as wooded ghylls, in clumps around scattered farms and boundaries and in remnant broadleaved woodlands on the fellside. Fellsides along the Lune valley are distinguished by parkland trees and woods.

The area is lightly settled with many vernacular farm buildings with boundary trees, scrub gorse and thorn. Farmsteads tend to be strung out along the base of the fells. Local gritstone and limestone are used widely in walls and buildings. Man made infrastructure is limited to transmission stations, pylons and overhead lines associated with the M6 motorway. This intrudes in the relatively natural moorland landscape. Away from the M6 corridor road access is limited and characterised by small roads that follow valleys and the grain of the landscape.

Ecology

Much of this moorland is covered by acid grassland, particularly the Howgill Fells; however parts of Birkbeck Fells and Middleton Fell are covered by extensive areas of upland heathland and blanket bog. Rush pasture is frequent along the unenclosed valley bottoms. On lower ground there are species-rich hay meadows along some of the remote valleys. Limestone is present under some parts of this landscape and in places, notably The Clouds, it outcrops forming areas of limestone pavement with associated areas of limestone grassland. Species-rich springs and flushes are present locally. Upland oak woodland is present along some ghylls and valley sides on lower ground.

The Shap Fells are extensively designated for ecological interest. This includes heather dominated blanket bog on deep peat with widespread flush communities, areas of raised mire, a range of acidic grasslands and small broadleaved woodlands. There are diverse upland breeding bird populations and a sizeable herd of red deer. The Middleton Fells have extensive heather cover which supports herds of red deer. The wildlife of the fells includes buzzards, kestrels, foxes and hares.

Historic and cultural character

The area is dominated by unenclosed uplands. There are some ancient fields and intakes. The occasional isolated farmsteads are often on ancient sites and in the valleys some of the farms are located on medieval vaccary sites. Only the lower slopes are enclosed by often large, though not always regular, fields bounded by dry stone walls with hog holes. The landscape retains many historic features including droveways, pennings and bields. Archaeological earthworks and other remains are generally well preserved and shielings are particularly common in areas like the Howgills.

Perceptual character

These are generally unpretentious fells and lonely valleys which are dwarfed by the higher fells elsewhere in the County. The higher slopes and summits afford extensive and panoramic views. The fells are tranquil and have a sense of remoteness due to the lack of development

and abundance of natural features. Changes in weather conditions can accentuate the sense of remoteness as views are enclosed and experiences become more elemental. In contrast to the Lakeland Fells these areas are little visited. The Howgills form a distinct cluster of soaring sweeping fells and have a higher profile and identity. AW Wainwright recognised their distinctive form, describing them in his walking guide as 'Sleek and smooth, looking from a distance, like velvet curtains in sunlight, like steep sided but gently domed.....Their soaring and sweeping lines are not interrupted by walls or fences.....a remarkable concentration of summits, often likened to a huddle of squatting elephants.....'

Sensitive features or characteristics

Areas of open, uninterrupted upland, sometimes with dramatic sweeping and soaring fell sides, with a lack of roads and development provide a sense of tranquility and isolation that is sensitive to development.

Vision

The high quality elements present within this landscape will be conserved and enhanced.

The moorland will be sympathetically managed. The grassland and grazing levels will be managed to enhance land cover and species diversity. At lower levels the landscape will benefit from strong patterns of limestone walls and hedgerows which will be conserved and enhanced over time. Rare features, such as species rich hay meadows, will be expanded and conserved. The areas of coniferous forest will be improved and will relate more closely to the rolling landform, while patterns of woodland copses associated with hill tops and farm buildings will enrich the landscape where they exist and provide diversity of habitats. The open, unspoilt, uncluttered and wild qualities and characteristics of these landscapes will be conserved through resisting intrusive development which may impinge on these unique features; this could include vertical energy developments such as large scale wind turbines or pylons.

Changes in the Landscape

Over the next 10 – 20 years this landscape could be subject to the following changes or issues:

Climate Change

- This area is heavily influenced by natural erosion processes. These could intensify with increased rainfall and extreme weather events. Land cover and management practices could be changed to make the landscape more robust to effects of climate change.
- An increase in invasive species however, could affect key landscape characteristics.
- Blanket bog has become degraded. This effects its carbon sequestration potential. Good condition bog can help mitigate against adverse effects of climate change.

Management Practices

- Grazing pressures continue to degrade heather cover, limestone and other grassland and wildlife diversity.
- As farm incomes reduce, the loss of farm labour could be contributing to localised neglect of traditional features including occasional derelict walls and buildings, under-grazed woodlands and over mature farm copses.
- Coniferous afforestation pressures have abated in recent years however interest could increase if incentives are provided to support short rotation forestry.

Development

- Energy infrastructure developments and other vertical structures such as, communication masts, pylons, transmission lines, telephone lines and transport infrastructure could erode the open, undeveloped and wild character of the landscape. Such development could also have a negative effect on the settings of the National Parks.
- The M6 corridor, as an element in the landscape, could have the potential to attract new large scale commercial development. Improvements to surfacing, lighting and information systems along the motorway could affect its appearance and people's awareness of it in the landscape.

Access and Recreation

- Public rights of way and areas of open access land provide a network of routes that enable quiet appreciation and enjoyment of the countryside.

Ongoing maintenance is needed to support this network in the future.

Guidelines

Natural Features

- Regenerate suppressed heather through detailed management programmes including reduction of stocking levels, control of bracken, phased cutting and burning in accordance with Natural England's Heather and Grass Burning Code.
- Manage semi-natural acidic grassland to enhance biological diversity including reduction in stocking levels, control of bracken and rushes.
- Manage limestone grassland through appropriate grazing and scrub clearance regimes.
- Restrict further agricultural improvement including ploughing, re-seeding, application of fertiliser, liming or herbicide treatment.
- Protect and enhance fell wetland including flushes, small tarns, and bog pools. This may include preventing drainage improvements and blocking existing drains to maintain high water levels, preventing overgrazing and poaching by stock, excluding supplementary feeding areas and controlling scrub encroachment.
- Protect gills and becks from stock to encourage development of diverse ground flora, scattered trees and woodland.
- Protect rocky outcrops, scree, potholes and caves by preventing removal, infilling or disturbance and controlling scrub encroachment.
- Reinforce existing tree clumps that accentuate farmsteads as visual islands at the base of fells.
- Restore and reinforce remnant grazed broad-leaved woodland by exclusion of livestock, natural regeneration restocking and appropriate management.
- Develop small to medium scale deciduous and locally native planting on suitable sites, and in particular on the lower slopes, valleys and ghylls.
- Ameliorate existing coniferous plantations including softening geometric outlines, introduction of open spaces and species diversification.

Cultural Features

- Manage the existing pattern of stone walls and repair derelict walls in a traditional way.

- Maintain and repair traditional farm buildings where they are significant landscape features.

Development

- Avoid development in remote, open, prominent and exposed areas that would degrade the landscape character. Development that could cause harm includes telecommunications masts, pylons, large scale wind turbines, and overhead transmission lines and telephone lines.
- Retain the rural character of the M6 corridor by resisting large scale commercial development and ensuring new motorway infrastructure such as information signs and necessary lighting is sited to minimise adverse effects on open parts of the landscape. Noise pollution should be mitigated against through careful selection of surface materials.

Access and Recreation

- Any parking facilities should be sensitively sited and well designed to minimise the impact on the landscape.
- Manage public access so as to avoid landscape damage and disturbance to sensitive habitats including sensitively designed waymarking, improved gates and gaps, bridges, boundary maintenance, appropriate surfaces and better interpretation.