

## P22 Peat and People

Theme(s): A: Conserve and restore river habitat, and adapt to / mitigate for the physical impacts of weather extremes and climate change.

Goal(s): A2: Retain or restore biodiversity, taking account of weather extremes and climate change.  
A5: Mitigate for the future impacts of climate change and future-proof relevant projects.

Blanket peat has been damaged in the past through inappropriate drainage and overgrazing and although much of this damage is being repaired through Environmental Stewardship and the North Pennines AONB Partnership's Peatland Programme, there are some areas of eroded peat in the Allen Valleys which are seriously affected by increased rainfall and which are particularly vulnerable. Restoring these eroded peat areas would safeguard the habitats, provide improved wetland sites (in accordance with Wetland Vision, a joint vision for new wetlands for England) and stop the peat itself from oxidising and contributing to climate change. This proposal has been submitted as part of the Allen Valleys Landscape Partnership bid for HLF funding.

*Update as at April 2013: the North Pennines AONB Partnership is continuing to develop the Allen Valleys Landscape Partnership bid, including peat habitat improvements.*

Project Status:	Proposed extension to current project
Potential Deliverer(s):	North Pennines AONB Partnership
Estimated Timeframe:	1 to 5 years
Estimated Project Cost:	£100,000 to £250,000
Potential Funding Source(s):	HLF Landscape Partnerships
Additional benefits / links / opportunities:	Carbon storage; work should include consideration of access for recreation