Eryri Nature Recovery Action Plan

2025-2030

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NATURE PARTNERSHIP

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NATIONAL PARK

Contents

Foreword

The exceptional natural beauty of Eryri is what makes it truly unique. The National Park Authority's collaboration with others to help achieve nature-friendly land management not only enhances the lives of its residents but also draws thousands of visitors each year. However, in Wales and worldwide, there is an alarming decline in biodiversity.

This Plan takes into account various strategic and legal influences available to the Authority with the aim of reversing this decline. It outlines essential actions for promoting nature recovery by prioritising biodiversity in decision-making, enhancing the resilience of our natural environment, and taking specific measures for habitats and species.

Eryri National Park is a place where significant positive changes can and do occur. Many opportunities for restoring nature in the National Park involve relatively large, extensive, and high-quality ecosystems and habitats. However, the challenges are too immense for any single government agency, non-governmental organisation, community, or landowner to address alone. Achieving meaningful nature recovery on a large scale requires collaboration across geographical boundaries, various land uses, involving many people, and often spanning years or even generations. This necessitates the participation of all partners and stakeholders, working together. This inclusive and landscape-scale approach to nature recovery is the aspiration of this Plan, which involves considering all lands, listening to all voices and empowering everyone to make a difference.

1. Introduction

1.1 What is biodiversity?

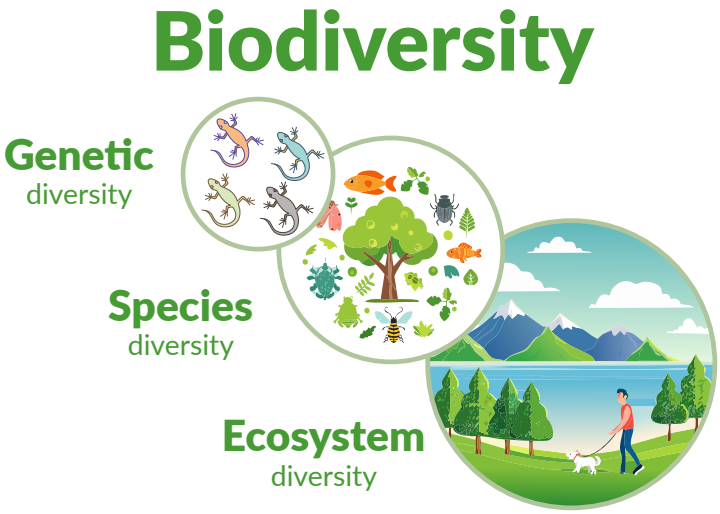
Biodiversity, short for 'biological diversity', refers to the variety and variability of life on Earth. It encompasses all living organisms, the ecosystems they are a part of, and the genetic diversity within species. Biodiversity refers to three main concepts:

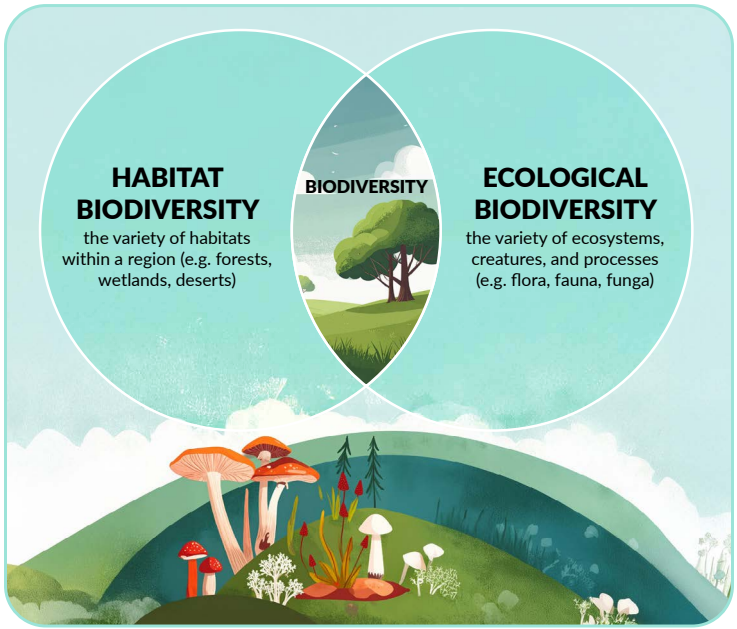
- **Species Diversity:** This is all about the different types of living things. The more types of animals, plants, fungi, and microorganisms we have, the higher the species diversity.
- **Genetic Diversity:** Within each species, there's a range of genetic differences. It's the unique combination of genes that make individuals within a species slightly different from one another, reducing the chances of inbreeding and genetic defects. Genetic diversity is crucial because it helps species adapt to changes in their environment and evolve over time.
- **Ecosystem Diversity:** An ecosystem is formed of communities of living organisms, which interact with their physical and chemical environments. They can be as small as a pond or as large as a rainforest. Ecosystem diversity is all about the different types of environments on Earth. The more ecosystems we can support, the higher the ecosystem diversity.

Biodiversity is essential for several reasons. Ecosystem stability often requires high levels of biodiversity, where a multitude of different species maintain different roles that keep the ecosystems in balance. This also makes the ecosystem more resilient, as increased biodiversity

will help ecosystems 'bounce back' from disturbances such as wildfires, floods or diseases. If one species is vulnerable, others can step in to fill the gap. Increased biodiversity is crucial for the existence of human life, providing us with many things we need, such as food, medicine, clean water and air. As well as enriching our lives by offering beauty, wonder, and inspiration, it is also deeply connected to many of our cultures and traditions.

However, biodiversity is currently under threat worldwide due to human activities like deforestation, pollution, overfishing and climate change. Human impacts like these have already diminished the resilience of our ecosystems here in Eryri and will continue to do so if the correct legislation is not in place. Ecosystems with significantly diminished resilience will find it difficult to adjust, withstand, and rebound from additional stress. As a result, their condition may deteriorate further, which impairs their capacity to deliver the vital services required for life to flourish. Conservation efforts are crucial to preserving biodiversity for the well-being of both the planet and future generations.





1.2 What is a Nature Recovery Action Plan?

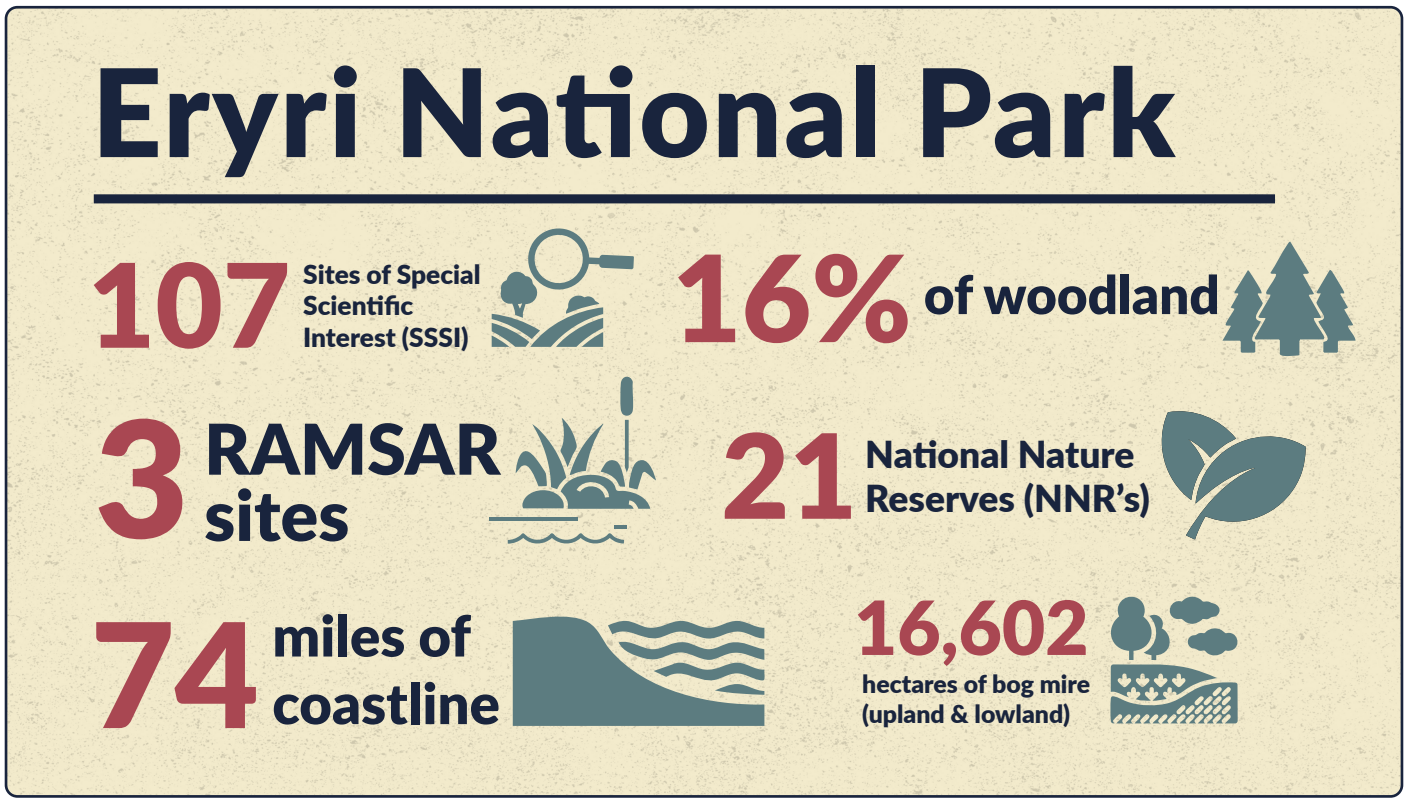
In short, a Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) is a strategic plan for the restoration of the natural environment. The Eryri NRAP is a document aimed at promoting biodiversity and ecosystems within the National Park through cooperation with local communities. It replaces the previous Biodiversity Action Plan and aligns with international calls for nature recovery, as well as Welsh Government legislation, policies, and global targets. It is also aligned with both the Climate Emergency and Nature Emergency declarations announced in 2019 and 2021 respectively. It will provide a starting point on how to respond and adapt to pressures in Eryri National Park. It summarises the desired outcomes for nature recovery in policy and legislation and outlines the steps to be taken to achieve these objectives within Eryri National Park. You can find more details about the relevant legislation and policies in the appendix of this document.

1.3 Who is the Nature Recovery Action Plan for?

The Nature Recovery Action Plan is designed to be for anyone interested in enhancing and safeguarding the natural world. This includes individuals, community groups, schools, landowners, land managers, local and regional authorities, businesses, and nonprofit organisations. The main overarching goal of the Eryri NRAP is to encourage initiatives that protect, conserve, and enhance nature, benefiting both people and the environment in our local communities and beyond. This NRAP covers the area within Eryri National Park, which is shared between the County Councils of Gwynedd and Conwy.

Gwynedd Nature Partnership are currently developing Gwynedd and Llŷn National Landscape's NRAP. Conwy's NRAP is formed as part of Bionet and can be accessed here.

For ideas and inspiration on how you can help deliver the Eryri NRAP, see section 4.4 How Can You Get Involved.



2. Biodiversity in Eryri

Nature exists all around us, whether its dandelions sprouting along a pavement in town or lush temperate rainforests officially recognised as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Each facet of nature plays a role in Eryri's biodiversity, and any efforts to preserve the ecological connections within the National Park contribute to the endurance of ecosystems for generations to come.

2.1 Habitats

Eryri National Park boasts a diverse range of habitats due to its varied geology, topography and climate. Within a relatively compact geographical area, there is a diverse array of landscapes in Eryri. This diversity sustains a multitude of plant and animal species, benefiting from the temperate and moist climate influenced by Atlantic weather patterns, fostering the existence of thousands of species. To reflect this, Eryri accommodates 107 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), 21 National Nature Reserves and three RAMSAR sites.

Eryri is well known for its mountainous terrain, accommodating 9 different mountain ranges that support a variety of upland habitats including rocky slopes, scree, heathland, and upland grasslands. Yr Wyddfa alone attracts over 600,000 visitors a year, making sustainable tourism one of the vital strategies for protecting these upland habitats so that they can be enjoyed by future generations. These habitats are important for species adapted to the challenging conditions of higher altitudes, such as the Snowdon Lily (Lili'r Wyddfa) and Ring Ouzel.

While the iconic peaks of Eryri are the first thing many picture when thinking of the National Park, the forests and woodlands that surround us account for 16% of the National Park's area. Our woodlands are incredibly important, providing a home for many species including fungi, birds and amphibians in addition to us as human beings. They can help reduce the impact of flooding events, improve our well-being and air quality and play a role in a large portion of the mythology and culture found in the area. Eryri is also home to internationally important Temperate Rainforests which are a unique type of forest ecosystem found in regions with mild temperatures and high rainfall throughout the year. They are important habitats that are home to a rich diversity of species including mosses and lichens.

Eryri is crisscrossed by rivers and dotted with numerous lakes. It is home to Wales' largest natural lake, Llyn Tegid, and a variety of aquatic invertebrates, semi-aquatic mammals, bird species and species such as the Freshwater Pearl Mussels, Water Voles and Kingfishers. These freshwater habitats also provide breeding grounds for fish including Brown Trout and Atlantic Salmon.

Extensive moorland can be found throughout the uplands and lowlands of Eryri, consisting of heathland, acid grasslands and peatlands. Peatlands are especially important as they provide a home for a multitude of species as well as being an incredible carbon store. 52% of the total soil carbon in Eryri is stored in our peatlands, making them incredibly important for tackling the climate change emergency. The moorlands support numerous different species including reptiles, insects, birds and bryophytes. The National Peatland Action Programme (NPAP) is a 5-year plan funded by the Welsh Government dedicated to restoring peatland in Wales, and addresses both the Nature and Climate emergencies by improving ecosystem resilience.

The coastal region of Eryri consists of 74 miles of sandy beaches, rocky shores and estuaries. The Dyfi (part of the UNESCO Dyfi Biosphere Reserve) and Mawddach estuaries are integral components of Eryri's coastline. Additionally, the sand dune system located in Morfa Harlech stands out as one of Britain's most significant dune systems. These areas support a variety of bird species, marine mammals, marine invertebrates, and are important for dune-specific species such as Marram Grass and Mining bees.

Eryri's habitats aren't limited to only natural landscapes. Built landscapes where people live and work (such as houses, schools, churches, commercial, industrial and farm buildings) also provide vital habitats for synanthropic (building-dwelling) species like swifts and bats.

Conservation efforts within Eryri National Park aim to protect and enhance these habitats, ensuring the preservation of its natural heritage and incredible ties to our language and culture. The diverse range of ecosystems and landscapes within the National Park contributes to its status as an area of high biodiversity and ecological significance. A full list of habitat types can be found in the Appendix which will subsequently be followed by individual habitat profiles which will be developed in 2025.

Efforts to preserve and enhance species biodiversity in Eryri National Park are constantly ongoing. Conservation initiatives aim to protect the habitats that support these species, manage invasive species, and monitor wildlife populations. Eryri's biodiversity contributes to its significance as a protected natural area and is a draw for ecotourism and outdoor enthusiasts. One of the key methods to boost Eryri's biodiversity and ecological resilience is by using a landscape-scale approach. An approach where habitats in Eryri are bigger, better, and more connected based on Lawton Principles.

- **Bigger**

  - Increasing the size (where possible) of sites already known to have high levels of biodiversity. These include Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and any species rich habitats that are known to us. This will provide more space for populations to thrive.

  - Empowering and facilitating farmers and land managers to increase the extent of quality habitat where possible throughout Eryri

- **Better**

  - Improving the management of these important sites and taking measures to protect them further. This will ensure different species are provided with the different resources needed to flourish.

- **More Connected**

  - Make connections between habitats by using 'stepping stone' habitat patches big enough and in good enough condition to sustain local populations of species.
  - Reduce the chance of creating isolated, fragmented sites with reduced biodiversity in-between.
  - Connections such as hedgerows, rivers, woodlands and meadows facilitate the movement of species throughout Eryri's landscapes.
  - Making spaces for nature no matter how small, everywhere (gardens, roadsides, parks, cemeteries, and more).

Due to the complex and dynamic nature of ecosystems, assessing their resilience can be challenging. A framework to measure and assess ecosystem resilience has been developed by Natural Resources Wales which relies on five key attributes:

Diversity

Extent

Condition

Connectivity

[other] **A**spects of ecosystem resilience

Ecological resilience = the capacity of an ecosystem to respond to disturbances or disruptions by resisting damage and

This is known as the DECCA framework. DECCA will provide us with a standardised measure to evaluate the resilience of ecosystems in Eryri.

Ecological resilience is crucial for maintaining healthy ecosystems and adapting to changing conditions. Creating a Bigger, Better and More Connected Eryri is the key to improving and safeguarding this resilience for future generations.

A more detailed report on priority species and habitats within Eryri National Park can be found in the appendices.

2.2 Species

Eryri National Park is known for its rich and diverse species biodiversity, thanks to its varied landscapes and habitats. The National Park is home to a wide array of plant and animal species, including some that are rare and iconic. Priority species are those that are considered most at risk and are targeted species for conservation efforts.

Birds: Eryri hosts a variety of bird species, ranging from common ones like robin and blue tit to more specialised species such as chough, ring ouzel, hen harrier, red kites, swifts and various owls. The National Park is also important for migratory birds, and its diverse habitats make it an excellent location for resting and feeding points as well as for birdwatching.

Mammals: The National Park is inhabited by various mammal species, including otters, deer, stoats, pine martens and dormice, with beavers being our most recent newcomer. Additionally, many bat species are a notable presence in some parts of Eryri.

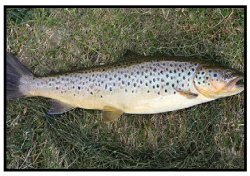
Invertebrates: Eryri's diverse habitats support a wide range of invertebrates, including butterflies, moths, dragonflies, and damselflies. Some rare and specialized species can be found in the National Park's unique ecosystems.

Plants: Eryri boasts a variety of plant species, from mountain flowers to woodland flora. The Snowdon Lily *(Gagea serotina)* is an iconic species, and the National Park is also home to various semi-aquatic plants, alpine plants and ferns. Marsh clubmoss is a species considered a 'living fossil' found here in Eryri, though currently in very low numbers largely due to heathland habitat fragmentation.

Lichens and bryophytes: Eryri's damp and temperate climate provides the perfect habitat for a plethora of lichens and bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) within the remaining temperate rainforest habitat.

Fungi: Woodlands and good quality unimproved/semi natural grasslands in Eryri provide suitable conditions for a diversity of fungi, including the iconic fly agaric and a multitude of colourful waxcap species.

Reptiles and Amphibians: Eryri's heathlands and grasslands are home to reptiles like the common lizard and adder. Amphibians, such as frogs and newts, can be especially abundant in Eryri's extensive wetland areas.



Aquatic life: The rivers and lakes in the National Park are essential habitats for fish species such as brown trout, Atlantic salmon and the Torgoch which rely on clean and well-maintained freshwater systems.

A full list of priority species including both Section 7 species and those expressed as priority by partners can be found in the Appendix. Relevant priority species will be included in the individual habitats profiles which will be developed in 2025.

2.3 Biodiversity Decline

The loss of biodiversity has become an increasing concern globally. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), approximately 28% of evaluated species are presently facing the threat of extinction. This alarming trend primarily stems from habitat destruction caused by human actions such as deforestation, urbanisation, and agricultural expansion. Additional pressures such as invasive species, unsustainable tourism, pollution and climate change introduce further challenges for global biodiversity. Unfortunately, the situation here in Eryri is not exempt.

The State of Nature Report 2023 for Wales highlights the uniqueness and fragility of Welsh biodiversity, showcasing species like the Snowdon Beetle and Snowdon Lily, which in a British context are exclusive to Eryri. However, the report also indicates concerning trends in biodiversity loss. The Biodiversity Intactness Index for Wales stands at 37%, indicating significant alteration and depletion of species abundance and composition, ranking among the lowest globally. This decline in biodiversity has repercussions for human well-being, including impacts on health, adaptation costs, and loss of ecosystem services.

Alongside this, a baseline study conducted by Natural Resources Wales found that of all protected sites in Wales, only 20% are in favourable condition and 50% are unknown. In Eryri, 27.3% of protected site features are in favourable condition, while 24.3% are in unfavourable condition and the condition status of 48.3% are unknown. Knowledge gaps like these indicate that more needs to be done through collaborative monitoring and targeted conservation action to ensure the resilience of these sites and surrounding habitats.

In addition, the State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR) assembled by Natural Resources Wales in 2020 discusses the importance of living as one – where the wellbeing of both people and the planet exist alongside each other and complement one another. This intertwines with the Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations Act and Environment Act, as does this plan. While the biodiversity in Wales is declining at an alarming rate, our future is supported by nature-oriented legislation, including the Global Biodiversity Framework's 30x30 target, and having previously established processes that facilitate collaborative decision-making and partnerships throughout Eryri and across Wales.

Efforts to address biodiversity loss are underway, with initiatives like the Wales National Peatland Action Programme aiming to restore degraded peatlands, which play a crucial role in carbon sequestration and flood mitigation. Initiatives to control species such as goats and deer also play an important role in conservation as a means of ensuring natural tree regeneration and reducing species overpopulation. Protecting and restoring healthy natural systems is essential, not only for nature but also for human society.

While there are successful conservation practices to draw upon, the report emphasises the need for increased efforts in conservation and restoration, alongside addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss. Society-wide involvement is crucial, as evidenced by public support for nature protection and restoration initiatives in Wales and the UK. Increased future involvement in data collection and monitoring of species and habitats by partners within the National Park are needed to secure a baseline for the state of biodiversity in Eryri.

"Between 1970 and 2013, **56%** of UK species declined. Of the nearly 8,000 species assessed using modern criteria, **15%** are threatened with extinction. This suggests that we are among the most nature-depleted countries in the world."

. Key Pressures Affecting Biodiversity in Eryri

- **Climate Change:** Changes in climate patterns can have various impacts on National Parks, including alterations in temperature, precipitation, and the frequency of extreme weather events. These changes can affect ecosystems, wildlife habitats, species (particularly species on the edge of their climatic ranges such as arctic-alpine species) and water resources.
- **Development:** The demand for infrastructure and housing projects can lead to habitat fragmentation and negatively impact the natural landscape, in addition to failing to acknowledge the potential for habitat creation within new developments that could cater for a number of synanthropic bird species.

- **Invasive non-native species (INNS):** Invasive non-native species (such as *Rhododendron ponticum*) can negatively affect our environment by outcompeting native species, introducing disease, altering ecosystem function, and hybridising with native species. A lack of biosecurity awareness and measures are a key reason for INNS dispersal.

- **Pests and Disease:** Pests and disease such as ash dieback and phytophthora can negatively impact habitats and disrupt ecosystem function through loss of species, leading to a cascade of negative effects for other species such as lichen and fungi. Lack of biosecurity awareness and INNS dispersal can play a role in disease spread.

- **Unsustainable Tourism:** National Parks often face the challenge of managing increasing visitor numbers. High volumes of tourists can lead to issues such as habitat degradation, soil erosion, disturbance to wildlife and increased pressure on local infrastructure (water & waste-water systems). Balancing the economic benefits of tourism with conservation efforts is a common challenge.

- **Woodland Management:** A large portion of native woodland has been converted to conifer planting since the 1950s, and we are now managing the effects of having a lack of established broadleaved woodlands in Eryri. The Eryri Tree and Woodland Strategy (TAWS) will play a key role in addressing loss of woodland biodiversity, Park-wide management planning, working towards more resilient landscapes and meeting carbon sequestration goals while preserving the cultural and historic connections with our trees and woodlands.

- **Land management:** Reduced biodiversity and ecological productivity can result from development and intensive land management practices. Housing/industrial development, quarrying, overgrazing/undergrazing, increased use of fertilisers, water pollution/ increased phosphate levels and soil degradation are some of the negative impacts as a result.

- **Pollution:** All types of pollution often have an adverse effect on ecosystems. What often seems like a small change to us could be detrimental to some species. For example, increased artificial light at night in our skies and waterways can negatively affect bat, invertebrate and fish species. Additionally, increased nitrogen in our waterways and soils can negatively impact lichen, fungi, and wildflower growth.

- **Water Management/hydrological change:** Sustainable water management is crucial for both environmental conservation and meeting the needs of local communities. Issues such as water pollution, over-abstraction, impoundments, canalisation, and changes in precipitation patterns can impact water resources and the ecosystems that rely on access to clean water and high-status geomorphology within the National Park.

- **Lack of collaboration:** Effective management of a National Park often requires collaboration among various stakeholders, including government agencies, local communities, and conservation organizations. Ensuring effective governance structures and community engagement is vital for the National Park's long-term sustainability.

By implementing a combination of strategies including widespread/landscape scale habitat restoration, management of invasive non-native species, and collaborating effectively with partners and landowners, Eryri National Park plans to effectively deal and adapt to the key pressures affecting its biodiversity. Ultimately ensuring the long-term conservation of its unique ecosystems and species.

4. Eryri Action Plan

4.1 The Wales Nature Recovery Action Plan

Due to the continued loss of biodiversity globally, the Welsh Government has developed and released its Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales. This plan is for everyone in Wales and outlines six primary objectives aimed at bringing a stop to the decline of biodiversity:

- Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels.
- Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management.
- Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation.
- Tackle key pressures on species and habitats.
- Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring of ecological resilience.
- Put in place a framework of governance and support for delivery.

These objectives are linked to The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, which go hand in hand with what the NRAP sets out to achieve. (See Appendix 1 for more information on policy and legislation.)

4.2 Eryri Nature Recovery Action Plan

The Eryri NRAP outlines these objectives set by the Welsh Government in a local context, drawing on the specific priorities within Eryri. While the Eryri National Park Authority doesn't have direct management control over the vast majority of land within its boundaries it can influence planning decisions for buildings in order to promote awareness and habitat creation measures. In addition, through working with the public, land managers, local authorities and our partners in the Eryri Nature Partnership, we aim to achieve the main overarching goal of the Eryri NRAP: **To increase the diversity and abundance of nature and improve ecological resilience throughout Eryri**.

To develop this plan a Task Group was established following the Eryri Nature Partnership meeting in May 2024. The Task Group includes representatives from various partner organisations. The Task Group considered two different Action Plans: the first Action Plan followed the Wales NRAP's six primary objectives, and the second was a draft Designated Landscape NRAP template which, once developed and complete, will form part of a document currently called "Designated Landscapes: Officer Guidance for Nature's Benefit" due to be completed March 2025A decision was made to follow the six primary objectives laid out in the Wales NRAP, but the Task Group will look again at the Eryri NRAP if the Welsh Government decides to encourage the adoption of the Designated Landscape NRAP template and/or the revised version of the Wales NRAP when published. Actions will be measured through SMART goals which will be developed with key partners in 2025.

The NRAP will adapt accordingly depending on changes in policy, legislation, funding, new information and research. A full review of the plan will take place in 2030.

4.3 General Action Plan

Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels
Action
Continue to seek opportunities to engage, support and raise awareness of Eryri's biodiversity within communities.
Collaborate with the public and private sector to embed biodiversity in decision making.
Promote Eryri National Park and partners' presence online to reach more people about our nature recovery activities and ensure information is accessible and inclusive.
Make all NRAP data accessible and digestible to help inform integrated decision making, including within our own governance structures.
Support nature connection and knowledge transfer to aid uptake of beneficial practices, reduce detrimental practices, and improve well-being.
Engage and support biodiversity in communities through cultural connections with their local places, e.g. names of fields, rock and peaks often reflect what grows there.

Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management
Action
Update current Eryri NPA Priority Species and Habitat list (LBAP) and develop appropriate indicators to measure the abundance and viability of priority species populations.
Use geographical Information Systems (GIS) to record species' distributions and highlight focus areas.
Survey and monitor species and habitats of principal importance in Eryri to inform conservation and management efforts.
Provide information and support to farmers, landowners, land managers, homeowners and developers on how best to safeguard and enhance biodiversity.
Facilitate and encourage close partnership working between conservation and agriculture, as better relationships yield better outcomes.
Facilitate working relationships with agro-ecologists to map farm habitats and assist in providing advice and guidance to farmers.
Work with communities and the public to raise awareness to help reduce erosion and trampling of species on Public Rights of Way (PRoW).

Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation
Action
Provide farmers, land managers and decision makers with the information they need to make informed decisions about ecological resilience, long-term sustainable site management and connectivity across landscapes to help secure the future viability of their landholdings.
Support local partnerships that wish to develop and deliver any projects that meet the Wales NRAP objectives.
Utilise more sustainable, nature-based solutions such as wetland restoration and increase the number of biodiverse grasslands.
Enact Eryri Tree and Woodland Strategy to integrate more native trees into the landscape to increase biodiversity and build on farming and community relationships.
Enact Eryri Peatlands Strategy to restore high carbon storage peatlands, increase sustainable management of lowland peatlands and marsh peatlands and help ensure peatland recovery.
Seek to support Natural Resources Wales in reviewing the condition of protected sites to facilitate effective management.
Contribute to the Global Biodiversity target of protecting and effectively managing at least 30% of our land and freshwater sources by 2030.
Seek opportunities to work closely with farmers on a landscape scale to deliver the collaborative element of the Sustainable Farming Scheme.

Tackle key pressures on species and habitats
Action
Work and support diverse communities, including farmers and Local Action Groups to help tackle Invasive species, pests and diseases and especially non-native invasive species.
Identify and address specific pressures and opportunities for species within the National Park and develop key indicators for reporting and monitoring identified pressures.
Utilise the importance of the ‘right tree, right place’ approach in all tree establishment projects.

Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring of ecological resilience
Action
Identify gaps in our knowledge/evidence by collating past, present and future projects and programmes by Eryri Nature Partnership partners, such as collaborative multi-landowner initiatives and community-based programmes.
Work with partners to use ecological network and species-specific mapping to inform future planning and policy decisions
Support Eryri Nature Partnership partners in research and data collection that aids nature recovery.
Use the DECCA framework to standardise all surveying, monitoring and reporting in the National Park to aid better communication and collaboration between partners.
Invest in the education and training of individuals to enable adequate ecological and species surveys.
Support local citizen science recording projects and encourage schools/local communities to get involved.
Collect and collate data from relevant policies and strategies to inform decision-making (such as SoNaRR, State of the Park Report, area statements, and Eryri Tree and Woodland Strategy).
Develop appropriate indicators to monitor the progress of the Action Plan.
Work alongside Cofnod to provide partners with easy and effective recording methods for monitoring habitats e.g. fixed-point photo monitoring.

Put in place a framework of governance and support for delivery
Action
Establish a robust and effective Local Nature Partnership to serve as a bridge between local and national delivery partners and the Welsh Government.
Collaborate closely with other LNPs to maximise project effectiveness and impact in terms of the Eryri NRAP objectives.
Link the Eryri NRAP with Government funding schemes to escalate action for nature (such as SFS, NNF, INRS, etc).
Link the Eryri NRAP with private funding opportunities to escalate action for nature (such as green finance initiatives, business investments etc).
Quantify and highlight staff capacity needs to coordinate and implement NRAP objectives.

4.4 How can you get involved?

The projects and activities coordinated by the Eryri Nature Partnership and our partners within Eryri National Park improve our nature here in Eryri, in addition to enhancing the well-being of the people in our communities and those who visit. Over the next few years, we'll be adding case studies to this section to help inspire everyone to take part and aid nature recovery.

Many of our projects within the Eryri National Park rely on the contribution of people like you, who are ready to help in any way they can. Whether it's by volunteering or making your garden more accessible for wildlife, everyone can help nature recover in some way! This section hopes to provide some inspiration and guidance for the people of Eryri and beyond who want to make a positive difference to nature in their area and help deliver the Eryri Action Plan. Whether you're an individual, community group, business, or visitor – each of us has the power to make a difference and motivate others to join the journey.

4.4.1 Individuals

Everyone can help contribute to biodiversity, even the smallest of actions can have a positive impact for nature. The changes you make will also be beneficial for your well-being not just nature, and getting started could look something like this:

- Volunteering with a local community group
- Gardening for wildlife and creating more wild areas in your garden
- Use peat-free compost in your garden
- Recording your local wildlife and submitting the data to the local environmental records centre (COFNOD is the Local Environmental Records Centre for North Wales)
- Recording any Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) you find, and removing them from your garden
- Adding swift bricks/boxes to your house
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – in that order!

4.4.2 Communities

Community action can be used to improve nature in many ways and is not only beneficial for the local species in your area but is also beneficial to the health and well-being of everyone. It's a great opportunity for locals to socialise and learn as well as helping local biodiversity by creating green spaces. Some ideas of how a community group can take action and get involved could start like this:

- Creating a community garden, orchard, or local green space
- Organising litter picks
- Creating and setting up bird boxes or dead wood log piles in the local park
- Working with a local church or chapel to improve biodiversity in cemeteries
- Creating or joining a Local Action Group to target invasive non-native species (INNS) such as Himalayan Balsam
- Creating spaces for pollinators and becoming a Bee-Friendly community

4.4.3 Businesses

Enhancing biodiversity is possible in some way for all businesses, whether it's something you start to incorporate in your future plans or changes you make to current operations, there's always a way to get involved and help nature. Making a change to your business could look something like this:

- Working towards becoming a net zero business and taking more environmentally friendly measures through product procurement and production.
- Raising staff awareness about your local environment
- Reviewing your external light usage
- Adding swift bricks/boxes to your buildings
- Getting involved with biodiversity and conservation projects - through directly taking part or help with funding.
- Managing your green spaces more effectively for wildlife
- Target wildlife tourism possibilities where possible

4.4.3.1 Farms

There is a substantial amount of agricultural land within the National Park (around 80%), making farmers key allies and collaborators for biodiversity recovery and habitat creation. Making changes to how you take care of your land to help nature doesn't have to happen on a grand scale. Many changes to how you take care of your land to benefit nature can also benefit your farming practice. Making changes to your farming practices might look like this:

- Looking at case studies from other farms and see what you can incorporate into your own practices
- Establishing flower-rich field margins for pollinators
- Adding swift bricks/boxes to your buildings
- Introducing rotational hedgerow management
- Incorporating herbal leys in your pastures
- Introducing rotational grazing where possible
- Reducing the brightness of external lights on your farm to benefit nocturnal species
- Increasing amount silvopasture where possible
- Retaining more decaying deadwood in woodlands and hedgerows
- Redirecting as much clean rainwater as possible from 'dirty' yards

4.4.3.2 Forestry

Forestry is another key sector in Eryri National Park that plays an essential role in nature recovery. Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) are some of the key sites for targeting restoration and can serve as a natural starting point for increasing biodiversity and increasing carbon sequestration. Here are a few ways changes to your forestry practices could look like:

- Referring to the Eryri Tree and Woodland Strategy
- Establishing controlled woodland grazing (seek advice on grazing type)
- Working towards eradicating invasive species in your woodland
- Removing any trees planted on deep peat
- Planting a variety of tree species where possible to aid lichen and bryophyte diversity
- Working towards expanding your woodland (seek advice on possibilities)

4.4.5 Schools

The next generation will be responsible for protecting nature one day, and it's our duty to teach them the importance of understanding and connecting to nature. Linking environmental education into the current curriculum doesn't have to be difficult. Nature is all around us, and increasing pupil engagement with the natural world could start with something like this:

- Creating space for wildlife on school grounds and buildings (e.g. bat and swift boxes)
- Undertaking a wildlife survey on school grounds – mapping locations and counting species can link into geography and numeracy curriculums as well as science.
- Becoming an eco-school
- Taking the classroom outside whenever possible
- Joining and taking part in nature activities/events

4.4.6 Starting Points

This list is not comprehensive, and is intended to be used as a guide and for inspiration of things you can do to help improve your local biodiversity:

Gardening

- Community Gardens: https://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/Community-Gardens
- Bee Friendly: https://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/Bee-Friendly
- How to make a hedge for wildlife: https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-make-hedge-wildlife
- Gardening for bugs: https://www.buglife.org.uk/get-involved/gardening-for-bugs/
- Gardening for butterflies and moths: https://butterfly-conservation.org/how-you-can-help/get-involved/gardening
- Helping birds and wildlife: https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/helping-birds-and-wildlife
- Wildlife Gardening: https://www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk/WildlifeGardening
- Gardening for Wildlife: https://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/Gardening-for-Wildlife

Businesses

- Business for bees: https://www.pollinator.org/biz-for-bees
- Business conservation partnerships: https://www.rspb.org.uk/helping-nature/what-we-do/influence-government-and-business/business-conservation-partnerships
- Eco-friendly hosting/accommodation: https://www.hostaway.com/blog/eco-friendly-airbnb/

Farms

- Nature Friendly Farming: https://www.nffn.org.uk/
- Buglife farming hub: https://www.buglife.org.uk/resources/farming-hub/
- Barn Owl conservation: https://www.barnowltrust.org.uk/
- Farming for pollinators: https://friendsoftheearth.uk/nature/farming-bees-and-pollinators
- Pasture for Pollinators: https://businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/business/european-innovation-partnership-eip-wales/approved-eip-wales-projects/pasture-pollinators
- Greener Primary Care Framework and Award Scheme for Wales: https://primarycareone.nhs.wales/topics/greener-primary-care/
- Hedgerow Management: https://www.nffn.org.uk/resources/nature-friendly-hedgerow-management
- Woodland Trust – Agroforestry: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/agroforestry-benefits/
- Farming Connect Case Studies:
  - Hafod y Llyn Isaf: https://businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/our-farms-projects/current-farms/hafod-y-llyn-isaf-0
  - Brynllech Uchaf: https://businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/our-farms-projects/current-farms/brynllech-uchaf

Forestry

- Forest Stewardship Council: https://fsc.org/en/blog/sustainable-forestry
- UK Forestry standard: https://www.gov.wales/uk-forestry-standard
- Become FSC certified: https://fsc.org/en/find-the-right-certification-or-licence
- Climate resilient forests: https://www.forestryengland.uk/climate-resilient-forests

Schools

- Eco-schools: https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/
- Rewilding childhood: https://thewildnetwork.com/
- How to build a bug hotel: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/09/how-to-build-a-bug-hotel/
- RHS School Gardening: https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/home
- Bat boxes: https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/buildings-planning-and-development/bat-boxes/putting-up-your-box

Extras

- Wildlife watch: https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/
- COFNOD: https://www.cofnod.org.uk/
- INNS Mapper – record invasive species: https://innsmapper.org/home
- INNS Toolkit for communities: https://www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk/waren
- Plantlife: https://www.plantlife.org.uk
- Y Bywiadur (a Welsh dictionary on species): https://www.llennatur.cymru/Y-Bywiadur
- National Nature Service Wales: https://www.natureservice.wales/
- PlantNet app: https://plantnet.org/en/
- Gwreiddiau Gwyllt: https://mentrauiaith.cymru/en/gwreiddiau-gwyllt-wild-roots/
- A database of nature resources available in Welsh language suitable for different age groups: https://www.gwreiddiaugwyllt.cymru
- Swift Conservation: https://www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk/widerlandscape/swift-conservation-project
- House Martin Conservation UK & Ireland: https://housemartinconservation.com/

5. Delivery and monitoring

5.1 Delivery

Fundamentally, successful delivery of the Eryri NRAP relies on effective and consistent collaboration with partners. The Eryri NRAP replaces and follows on from the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) for Eryri. The LBAP resulted from the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity and comprised of action plans for many individual species and habitats. These original Action Plans help provide a foundation for this NRAP, however the document will continue to be updated and more relevant actions based on current legislation and pressures will be included. The Eryri NRAP will remain adaptable, ready to be adjusted in light of alterations in habitats, species, legislation, funding and resources.

Both the Eryri Nature Partnership and Eryri National Park Authority will spearhead the development and supervise the implementation and monitoring of the Nature Recovery Action Plan. However, it is the extensive participation and cooperation among the partners that will propel the delivery forward.

5.2 Monitoring

To monitor the progress of the Eryri NRAP, the Eryri National Park Authority will collate and regularly update a list of all projects and activities taking place that contribute to the delivery of the NRAP in Eryri. Updates will be released every two years and be available on the Eryri National Park Authority website. Continued monitoring under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and production of the State of The Park Report will also be used to monitor progress.